

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE

10. DUNDEE ROAD

DUNDEE



**BURGH OF KILMARNOCK**

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**REPORT**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**FOR THE**

**YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER**

**1939**

---

**KILMARNOCK**

**"STANDARD" PRINTING WORKS**

**1940**



INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD.  
OXFORD

BURGH OF KILMARNOCK



# ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTH OF KILMARNOCK

FOR THE YEAR 1939



BY

BRYCE R. NISBET, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Ed.), D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
KILMARNOCK, <sup>1940.</sup>  
October, ~~1939~~.

**To the Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the Burgh of  
Kilmarnock, and to the Department of Health for Scotland.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the health of the Burgh of Kilmarnock for the year 1939. The Report is drawn up in compliance with D.H.S. Circular No. 59/1940 of the Department of Health for Scotland, dated 2nd April, 1940, except for the fact that the Sanitary Inspector's Report is not included as envisaged in that circular, the Town Council deciding that he should issue a separate Report.

During the year there were relatively low Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infantile Mortality Rates. A point of interest which will be seen from Table No. 7 is that there were no deaths in residents between the ages of 10 and 14 years (inclusive).

In the early part of the year there were outbreaks of Influenza and Whooping Cough. The only considerable development in the health services during the year was the establishment of a small laboratory, the idea being to have reports on Diphtheria swabs in a matter of 12 to 14 hours, thus obviating the delay consequent on having to use postage for the conveyance of these swabs to a laboratory at a distance.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Staff of the Public Health Department and also the Sanitary Inspector and his Staff for all the help received during the year, and for the co-operation in the preparation of this Report.

As in the past, I should like to thank the medical practitioners of the Burgh for their continued co-operation, the Conveners and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committees, and Sub-Committees and the other Officials of the Town Council, all of whom have helped to further the health of the community.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

B. R. NISBET,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## BURGH OF KILMARNOCK

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### Constitution of Committees at 31st December, 1939

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#### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

*Convener*—COUNCILLOR D. BOWMAN, J.P.

Provost Wilson.

Bailie W. A. Gold, J.P.

Treasurer J. H. Carnie.

Bailie J. Wallace.

Bailie J. Climie, M.A., J.P.

Councillors J. Bryson.

Bailie D. Cairns, J.P.

H. Wark, J.P.

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#### PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE ; WIDOWS', ORPHANS', ETC., PENSIONS ACT,  
AND VENEREAL DISEASES.

*Convener*—BAILIE J. CLIMIE.

Bailie W. A. Gold ; Treasurer J. H. Carnie ; and Councillors D. Bowman and  
H. Wark.

#### CO-OPTED MEMBERS.

Mrs. Jane F. Garven, Mrs. Margaret Blackwood and Mrs. M. D. Murchland.

#### HOSPITALS.

*Convener*—BAILIE J. WALLACE.

Bailie D. Cairns ; Treasurer J. H. Carnie ; and Councillors J. Bryson,  
H. Wark and D. Bowman.

## STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health—*

B. R. NISBET, M.D., M.R.C.P.(Ed.), D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health—*

H. MORRISON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Resident Medical Officer (Burgh Maternity Home)—*

E. M. McKENDRICK, M.B., Ch.B.

*Consulting Staff—*W. I. C. MORRIS, M.B., Ch.B. F.R.C.S.(Ed.), M.C.O.G.—*Obstetrician*  
(Left for Military Service, 16/9/39).W. CLEMENT, M.B., M.C.O.G.—*Interim Obstetrician* (Appointed 18/9/39).W. DOUGLAS FREW, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S.—*Surgeon*.W. V. ANDERSON, F.R.C.S.(Ed.).—*Orthopaedic Surgeon*.R. McG. C. CRAWFORD, M.D.—*Radiologist*.*Kirklandside Infectious Diseases Hospital—*

Matron—MISS J. GORDON.

*Burgh Maternity Home—*

Matron—MISS M. B. McCREATH.

*Kaimshill Sanatorium—*

Matron—MISS A. Y. DICKIE.

*Health Visitors—*

\* † ‡ MISS M. A. ROBERTSON.

a \* † ‡ MISS M. A. McCALLUM.

\* † ‡ MISS H. P. CAMERON.

\* † ‡ MISS C. M. McLEOD.

*Clerical Staff—*

d MISS A. D. MURRAY.

MISS E. S. GILLESPIE.

MISS I. R. MURRAY.

MISS M. D. TAYLOR (appointed 6/11/39).

MISS J. B. KEDDIE (resigned 4/11/39).

MISS B. ARBUCKLE (appointed 27/3/39).

MRS. A. MASON (resigned 25/3/39).

\* State Registered Nurse.

† Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

‡ Health Visitor's Certificate.

a Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

d Member of the Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

# Report of the Medical Officer of Health

**For the Burgh of Kilmarnock for the Year 1939**

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## WATER SUPPLY

All water delivered to householders during the year was Chlorinated after preliminary filtration, and samples taken for analysis during the year were all returned as excellent. On no occasion was there evidence of any water-borne spread of disease in the town during 1939.

Examinations were carried out of employees on the Water Undertakings in an attempt to prevent the employment of any enteric carriers. It was not found necessary to limit the employment of any of these men.

The total storage capacity of the reservoirs was 225 days' supply—allowing 60 gallons per day per person. The lowest reserve at any time during the year was on 19th October when a 115 days' supply was available. Obviously the Burgh has little to fear in the way of water shortage.

There is one matter regarding which comment may be made. The Local Authority owns several reservoirs (the details of which have been published in previous Reports), but the Corporation does not own any of the gathering grounds. There is therefore, no control of what goes on in and around the streamlets feeding the reservoirs, which streamlets are often grossly contaminated. This naturally puts a greater strain on the purification processes than need be. It would be good policy for the town to acquire as much of the gathering ground as possible, whenever an occasion arises.

During the year, along with the Water Manager, the drainage areas of the North Craig supply were inspected, because of anxiety in connection with the increase in the number of animals being kept on the farms. A report was submitted.

An Analyst's Report on the water supply is to be found in the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

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## HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

An event of unusual importance was the official opening on 15th March, 1939, of the 3000th house erected by the Corporation. The record of the provision of houses in the Burgh has been a good one, by comparison with other places in general, and real progress was being made in the campaign against unfit and overcrowded dwellings when, most disappointingly for all interested in this subject, the War broke out in September. Building immediately slowed down and the delivery of the new houses had almost ceased by the end of the year.

During 1939, 242 houses were erected, of which number 221 were built by the Local Authority. Up to the end of 1939 the Corporation had built 3,160 houses.

These figures mean that the Corporation now owns in the region of 30% of the houses in the Burgh.

There were in course of erection at 31st December, 1939, 228 houses under the 1930 and 1935 Acts (Rehousing and Overcrowding) and 4 houses without subsidy.

The following Table sets out the particulars of areas so far dealt with :—

TABLE No. 1.

Areas.	Total Number of Houses Demolished or Awaiting Demolition.	Number of Persons Displaced or Awaiting Displacement.
Nos. 1 to 22	718	2424

During the year, mainly by means of the Decanting Scheme, 152 cases of overcrowding were relieved, 946 persons being concerned. In 97 instances overcrowding was relieved in Local Authority houses and the balance in privately-owned houses.

On 4 occasions in dwellings where the Local Authority had relieved overcrowding, the houses again became overcrowded during the year.

From a survey recently carried out by the Sanitary Department, it was found that the percentage of overcrowded "fit" houses had fallen to some 16%.

Only one application in respect of a dwelling for grant under the Housing (Rural Workers) Scheme was received during the year. The application was granted.

In January the Local Authority agreed that every tenth house erected under the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1935, should be set aside for families resident in sub-let rooms. A condition attached to this provision was that residence in sub-let property should have lasted a minimum of three years. Previous to this decision a family in a sub-let room had no claim for a house under the 1935 Act.

## FOOD SUPPLY

### Milk.

61 Samples were taken in terms of Sections 20 and 21 of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act. The details of the samples are published in the Annual Report for 1939 of the Sanitary Inspector, page 41.

On only one occasion was the milk found to be below the standard in respect of milk fat, and on no occasion was it defective in respect of total non-fatty solids. A formal sample was taken in the case of the defective milk and this conformed to the standard.



It is interesting to note that of these 61 samples of untreated milk, on only two occasions was the total Bacterial Count per c.c. over 100,000. On three occasions the Coliform Bacillus was present in 1/1000 c.c., a most unsatisfactory state of affairs. On nine occasions the Coliform Bacillus was present in 1/100 c.c. and on 15 occasions in 1/10 c.c. When it is remembered that these are ordinary untreated milks, it will be agreed that the results are, whilst not as good as desired, at least very satisfactory when compared with other districts.

The samples of graded milks taken for Bacteriological and Chemical Analysis are set out in the following Table :—

TABLE No. 2.

	No.	Conformed to Standard.	Did not Conform to Standard.
Certified ... ..	3	2	1
Tuberculin Tested (Past.) ...	1	1	—
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	33	27	6
Pasteurised ... ..	2	2	—
Standard ... ..	12	11	1

With regard to these samples which did not conform to the standard, in the case of the Certified sample, it was unsatisfactory in respect of Coliform Bacilli being present in 1/10 c.c. With regard to the Tuberculin Tested samples, one fell short of the standard of milk fat, four contained Coliform Bacilli in 1/100 c.c., and one had a very abnormally high total Bacterial Count.

The question of milk supply is of first importance at any time, but more so in time of War. It has been found from past experience of Wars that they tell most severely on the health of children, and that this is almost entirely due to interference with the nutrition as supplied by the food available.

The following Table sets out the daily milk consumption in the Burgh for 1933, 1936 and 1939.

TABLE No. 3.

Year.	Total Amount of Milk Sold per Day (Gallons).	Certified (Gallons).	Grade "A" T.T. (Gallons).	Pasteurised (Gallons).
1933	2000	46	30½	164
1936	2440	13	144	530
1939	1900	25	300	540

It will be seen from a study of the Table that the average consumption per head appears to be just under 0·4 pints and this is to be compared with a figure of 0·4 pints for 1933 and 0·5 pints for 1936. During the period of the past decade the amount of Certified Milk sold has not amounted to any large proportion of the total. There is some evidence that the amount of Tuberculin Tested Milk being sold is increasing. In addition to the 300 gallons of Tuberculin Tested Milk, about 400 gallons of

Standard Milk were sold during the year. Further, much of the raw milk sold as such, was of the quality of Standard Milk.

24 samples were taken for the Inoculation Test and one was found to contain Tubercle Bacilli.

### Meat.

For particulars regarding the work done in the Burgh under the relative Sections of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897 ; the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1932 ; the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Acts, 1928 ; and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, the Report of the Sanitary Inspector should be consulted.

### Miscellaneous.

During the year the Empire Marketing Board Poster Frames have again been used by the Public Health Department for displaying health propaganda. Posters have been displayed on the two frames in the Burgh each month, and have dealt with the following subjects :—

Eugenics.	Civil Nursing Reserve.
Diphtheria Immunisation.	Wise Eating.
Germs.	Sleep for Strength.
Maternity and Child Welfare.	Measles.
Care of the Teeth.	Influenza.
Healthy Holidays.	Fitness on the Home Front.

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1939

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,587.5 Acres
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,417
Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,443

	Corrected Number.	Rate per 1,000 of the Population.
Births (including Illegitimate) ... ..	724	17.9
Births Illegitimate ... ..	27	3.7 *
Still Births... ..	24	32 **
Deaths—All Causes ... ..	488	12.1 †
Tuberculosis (All Forms) ... ..	23	0.57
,, (Respiratory System) ... ..	18	0.45
Principal Epidemic Diseases ... ..	28	0.69
Children aged under 1 year ... ..	52	72 †
Children aged under 1 month ... ..	27	37.0 †
Women in Childbirth ... ..	3	4.1 †

\* Rate per 100 Births.

† Rate per 1,000 Births.

\*\* Rate per 1,000 Births (including Still-Births).

‡ Rate adjusted for Age and Sex Distribution = 13.1.

TABLE No. 4.

INFECTIOUS OR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES DURING 1939.

	No.	Rate per 1,000 of the Population.
Deaths from Measles ... ..	—	—
„ Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—
„ Whooping Cough ... ..	10	0·25
„ Diphtheria ... ..	1	0·02
„ Influenza ... ..	11	0·25
„ Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	4	0·10
„ Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ... ..	18	0·45
„ Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary) ... ..	5	0·12

TABLE No. 5.

DEATHS FROM SYSTEMIC DISEASES DURING 1939.

	No.	Rate per 1,000 of the Population.
Diseases of the Circulatory System ... ..	128	3·17
Diseases of the Nervous System ... ..	69	1·73
Cancer ... ..	55	1·36
Diseases of the Respiratory System ... ..	52	1·28
Diseases of the Digestive System ... ..	21	0·52
Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System ... ..	21	0·52

TABLE No. 6.

STATISTICAL FACTS SHOWING KILMARNOCK'S POSITION FOR THE YEAR 1939.

	All Scotland.	Large Burghs.	Kilmarnock.
Birth Rate ... ..	17·4	17·9	17·9
Death Rate ... ..	12·9	13·0	12·1
Infantile Mortality Rate ... ..	69	75	72



## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births.

The number of living children whose births were registered in Kilmarnock during the year 1939 amounted to 883, of whom 466 were males and 417 were females. The ratio was thus 112 males to every 100 females, which, although not so high as the local ratio for 1938, is still above the national ratio for 1939.

24 still-births were registered during the year (corrected for transfer).

After allowing for the transfer out to places of usual residence of certain birth registrations, and for the transfer in of births to persons normally resident in the Burgh but occurring elsewhere, the corrected number of live births for the Burgh population was found to be 724. The Birth Rate then for 1939 was 17·9. This figure has not been so low since the abnormal war year of 1917, when the figure was also 17·9. The greatest number of births in any month occurred in May. There was also a high incidence in August. The month having the lowest incidence was January.

Twin births occurred 14 times during the year. In one instance the birth was to an expectant mother who had been sent from the Glasgow area under the Evacuation Scheme.

### Deaths.

Deaths registered during the year numbered 488 in respect of persons normally resident in the Burgh. The Death Rate was 12·1; that for the previous year being 12·8, and the average for the previous five years being 13·1.

The figure 12·1 has never been lower in the Burgh. On two previous occasions in 1913 and 1920 the figure of 12·1 has been returned.

### Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of children aged under one year numbered 52, and as births numbered 724 the Infantile Mortality Rate was 72 per thousand births. The rate for male children was 83 and for female children 59.

The figure 72 is to be compared with 79 for the previous year. The figure has not been so low since 1931, when the Infantile Mortality Rate was 69.

### Epidemic Diseases.

Deaths from the principal epidemic diseases numbered 28 in 1939, as compared with 24 in 1938. The Death Rate 0·69 per thousand shows no substantial change over the figure for 1938. By far the most important causes of death in this group of diseases were Influenza (11 deaths) and Whooping Cough (10 deaths).

### Tuberculosis.

Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis numbered 23, the same figure as in 1938. The Death Rate was thus again 0·57 per thousand of the population, as compared with a figure of 0·87 for the large Burghs and of 0·70 for all Scotland. This year's figure is again very satisfactory by comparison.

### Other Diseases.

Deaths from diseases of the Circulatory System again took first place numerically during 1939. The only item of note in connection with these deaths as classified was a considerable drop in the number of deaths from diseases of the digestive system.

Maternal Deaths numbered 3, as compared with 4 in 1938.

There were 7 deaths from suicide and 15 from accident. The figures for 1938 were 4 and 11 respectively.

TABLE No. 7.  
CAUSES OF DEATH (CORRECTED FOR TRANSFER).

	Total	All Ages.		-1	1-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85 and over
		Male	Female												
Whooping Cough ... ..	10	7	3	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ... ..	11	2	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	4	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Epidemic Diseases ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	18	13	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infectious and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer—Malignant Disease ... ..	55	22	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes Mellitus ... ..	6	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other General Diseases—Chronic Poisonings ... ..	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ... ..	55	23	32	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs ... ..	14	6	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heart Disease ... ..	119	68	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	9	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ... ..	16	11	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all Forms) ... ..	29	18	11	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	7	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer ... ..	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, etc. (all Ages) ... ..	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ... ..	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ... ..	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	14	4	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System ... ..	7	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes ... ..	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. ... ..	28	16	12	27	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Old Age ... ..	13	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide ... ..	7	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Violence ... ..	20	14	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown ... ..	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	488	239	249	52	10	9	—	14	29	26	41	69	126	93	19

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total Number of Notifications received in 1939 ... ..	249
Total Number of Notifications received in 1938 ... ..	242
Average Yearly Number of Notifications received in 1935-39 ... ..	379

The total number of notifications was again low. The number, although a few more than in the previous year, is much below the average for the previous nine years (435). During the year there were several instances of food handlers being asked to stay off work, when they had been in contact with infectious disease. The usual time that these persons were kept off was four days—until a throat swab negative to Haemolytic Streptococci had been received. One handler was off for eight days, as the first swab was positive. In four instances compensation (amounting in all to £6 18s 5d) was paid.

### Scarlet Fever.

Cases of Scarlet Fever were infrequent in the early months of the year only one case being notified in January. During the first half of the year there were only 26 cases notified *i.e.* an average of one per week. In July and August the numbers notified continued small there being only two cases in the six weeks 26th July to 4th September. In the last four months of the year there was a sharp rise in the numbers notified—19 in September, 24 in October, 21 in November and 14 in December. There were signs of a definite slackening off in incidence towards the close of the year.

Whilst up to September the cases had been quite sporadic, they then took on a grouping around Bentinck School, and gradually during the later months other schools showed an increase in incidence.

Four of the cases were evacuees.

There were 94 instances of 1 case occurring in a house, 7 instances of 2 cases occurring in a house, and 1 instance of 3 cases occurring in a house.

Summarising the figures for the year there were in all 111 notifications as compared with 81 in 1938, and 178 the average for the years 1934-1938 inclusive.

104 of the 111 patients were removed to Hospital, *i.e.*, 94%.

There were no deaths from the disease during the year.

### Diphtheria.

The incidence of Diphtheria was peculiar during the year. The month of maximum incidence was March, when 10 cases were notified. Diphtheria was very rare in the second half of the year, 8 cases being notified in six months, 2 of the cases being in evacuees.

There were, in all, 37 cases and 1 death. There have not been so few cases in any year since 1927.

There were <sup>29</sup> instances of 1 case occurring in a house, and 3 instances of 2 cases occurring in a house—the other 2 cases occurring in Institutions.

All the patients were removed to hospital.

The only point of epidemiological interest centred round one of the schools—Glencairn. In February, a boy of 9, in attendance at Glencairn School, was admitted to hospital with Diphtheria. Then, on 26th March, a girl of 9 was admitted with a very virulent attack of Diphtheria and died the same day. She also had attended Glencairn School. A search was made for sources of infection at the school, and a boy with nasal discharge was found to be the source of infection. He was admitted to hospital on 30th March. Another girl from the same class was admitted to hospital on 2nd April, and the probability is that all the cases were caused by the one source of infection. Apart from a girl admitted from another class a few days later, there were no more cases from the school till 19th June, when another girl from the age 9 class was admitted. The school was again visited and the 9 year old class swabbed. The original carrier proved again to be the source of infection and he was again isolated until clear.

The following Table gives further particulars of Diphtheria for the last ten years :—

TABLE No. 8.

Year.	Notifications.		Removals.		Case Fatality per Cent.
	Numbers.	Attack Rate per 1,000 Living.	Numbers.	Proportion per Cent.	
1930...	58	2	45	78%	1.7
1931...	98	3	75	77%	5.1
1932...	45	1	40	89%	6.7
1933...	59	2	56	95%	1.7
1934...	61	2	55	90%	8.2
1935...	151	4	146	97%	5.9
1936...	115	3	115	100%	4.3
1937...	110	3	107	97%	3.6
1938...	66	2	65	98%	9.1
1939...	37	1	37	100%	2.7

The incidence of Diphtheria in Longpark and Knockinlaw Rehousing Schemes was again studied during the year. It will be remembered that the rate has been persistently high of recent years. In 1939 there were 5 cases in Longpark area and 32 in the rest of the Burgh. This year then the incidence approximates more closely than heretofore to the Burgh rate.

The most feasible explanation for the increase in Diphtheria, sore throats and respiratory infections, which appeared shortly after the removal of many of the tenants to Longpark and Knockinlaw, would appear to be as follows :—

Persons resident in slum or other old properties were generally coming in contact with a very limited population around their own doors or in the classroom, or under conditions of bad ventilation but generally adequate heat indoors in their own homes. They became acclimatised to each others' germs by continual involuntary interchange.

Longpark and Knockinlaw Scheme was made up originally by persons transferred from all over the town from "Section 16 Order" houses. Thus, on the transfer of a family to a new house, the immediate neighbours would be





## REACTIONS.

On only one occasion was attention drawn to a reaction. This was in a boy of 5 years and took the form of stiffness of the arm and general malaise lasting for 24 hours and coming on the day after an injection of 0.1 c.c. A.P.T.

## RESULTS.

Of 322 children tested three months after treatment with A.P.T. as above during 1939, 3 were Schick Positive, being a Schick Negative rate of over 99%. Of 8 tested following the 3-dose method with T.A.F. one was positive.

The following Table gives a general picture of the position :—

TABLE No. 9.

	Ages.			
	1-5 Years.	6-9 Years.	10-14 Years.	1-14 Years.
Percentage of known Schick Negative Children in the Burgh ... ..	18.9%	57.4%	26.0%	32.7%

## CASES NOTIFIED AFTER IMMUNISATION.

There were 3 children notified during the year as suffering from Diphtheria who had been previously immunised. Particulars of these cases are to be seen in the section on Diphtheria under the Work of Kirklandside Hospital. Two of the 3 illnesses only were considered to be Diphtheria.

At 1st January, 1939, we knew that 2,066 of the children in the Burgh between the ages of 1 and 14 years were Schick Negative as a result of our immunisation campaign. We also estimated that the total number of children in the Burgh between the ages of 1 and 14 years was 9,528. Of the 2,066 children two children developed Diphtheria during the year. These children had been known by us to have been Schick negative for three years, having been treated in 1936 with T.A.F. Among the children not known to be Schick negative, *i.e.* 7,462, there were 36 cases. The expected number on the basis of 36 in 7,462 would have been 10. Without elaborate statistical investigation it must be obvious to anyone that the number of cases occurring in the immunised is small compared to the number in the non-immunised. Furthermore, without a doubt some of the non-immunised would be naturally immune, and this would have the effect of making the differences in the figures even greater than they appear.

**Erysipelas.**

26 cases of this disease were notified in 1939. This is the highest number of notifications since 1934, and is somewhat above the average for the past nine years. Notifications were received in each of the months of the year. For the second year in succession there was no death from the disease.

**Smallpox.**

No case of this disease occurred in the Burgh during the year. One patient, a soldier, was admitted to hospital with an unusual eruption. This had a certain resemblance in distribution to a Smallpox rash, but in view of the man's recent vaccination the condition was considered an example of Vaccinia.

**Enteric Fever.**

Two cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year. In each instance the infection proved to be by *b. paratyphosis* (B). Each infection was mild and both patients recovered. No source of infection was traced, but on one occasion ice cream was suspected.

**Dysentery.**

There were no cases of Dysentery notified during the year.

**Pneumonia.**

The number of notifications received was very small—10 in all. This is less than a quarter of the average yearly number for the past nine years. There were no notifications of Influenzal Pneumonia.

There were 28 deaths credited to Pneumonia (all forms), and of this number only 1 had been notified. This is the smallest number of deaths from Pneumonia in any year since 1931.

**Puerperal Infections.**

Five cases of Puerperal Fever and nine cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified in 1939. Of these patients 4 and 4 respectively were removed to hospital. There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis during the year.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

There was one notification of eye inflammation in the new-born. The case was removed to hospital and made a good recovery.

**Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

Four cases of the disease were notified during the year. All were admitted to hospital and a fifth case was also sent to hospital as a possible Meningitis but not notified. There were two deaths.

**Tuberculosis.**

44 cases of Tuberculosis were notified in 1939. Of this number 29 were in respect of Pulmonary disease and 15 in respect of Non-Pulmonary disease. These figures show an increase over those for the previous two years, but are less than the figures for 1936.

TABLE No. 10.

Table for the year ended 31st December, 1939, showing the diseases in the various wards of the Burgh and the houses of various sizes.

Diseases.	Wards.								Total.			Apartments.					5 and over	Institutions
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1939	1938	1937	1	2	3	4			
Scarlet Fever	8	15	10	20	15	18	12	13	111	81	174	8	44	43	11	4	1	
Diphtheria	5	5	5	1	8	4	5	4	37	66	110	4	16	8	6	3	—	
Erysipelas	5	4	3	4	5	1	3	1	26	15	16	2	8	13	1	2	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	4	7	7	—	1	1	—	2	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	3	1	2	—	2	1	1	10	15	30	1	5	2	—	—	2	
Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Fever	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—	9	12	9	—	—	2	—	—	3	
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	—	—	3	—	1	1	1	9	4	—	—	5	1	—	3	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Tuberculosis	1	9	6	11	5	4	3	5	44	29	29	1	17	14	8	—	4	
TOTAL	23	40	25	41	39	31	25	25	249	242	401	16	92	90	27	11	13	



TABLE No. II.

AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Total	Cases removed to Hospital	Cases not removed to Hospital
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	4	4	—
Diphtheria ...	—	3	20	5	—	—	—	37	37	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	2	6	9	—	6	26	14	12
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	2	2	1	3	2	—	10	5	5
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	5	3	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	1	8	—	—	9	5	4
Scarlet Fever ...	3	42	52	9	5	—	—	111	104	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	—	—	2	11	13	3	—	29	24	5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	—	1	7	4	3	—	—	15	13	2
	5	49	87	42	45	14	7	249	211	38

TABLE No. 12.

TABLE SHOWING THE MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Months.	Cerebro- Spinal Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Pneumonia (Acute Primary).	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Scarlet Fever.	Tuberculosis.	Total.
January.....	—	4	—	2	—	2	—	—	1	4	13
February.....	—	3	—	2	1	4	—	1	2	2	15
March.....	—	10	—	2	—	—	—	1	4	6	25
April.....	2	6	—	1	—	1	1	2	5	6	24
May.....	—	—	1	4	—	1	—	2	6	5	19
June.....	—	6	1	3	—	—	1	2	8	2	23
July.....	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	5	13
August.....	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	6
September.....	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	1	19	4	28
October.....	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	—	24	1	30
November.....	—	2	—	3	—	—	1	—	21	3	30
December.....	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	14	5	23
	4	37	2	26	1	10	5	9	111	44	249

TABLE SHOWING COMPARATIVE NUMBER OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE PAST TWELVE YEARS  
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

	Dysentery.	Polio-Encephalitis.	Acute Anterior Polomyelitis.	Chickenpox.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Diphtheria.	Tuberculosis.	Pneumonia (Acute and Influenzal).	Scarlet Fever.	Total.	Patients Hospital. Removed to
1928	..	..	..	27	3	..	3	2	..	32	54	79	50	180	430	228
1929	..	..	..	89	1	3	4	3	3	40	70	85	68	132	498	283
1930	..	..	..	45	..	9	4	3	7	28	58	89	49	148	440	217
1931	..	..	..	33	1	7	5	6	4	25	99	58	58	188	487	213
1932	..	1	2	58	3	5	6	3	4	16	45	46	52	337	578	355
1933	..	..	..	..	2	12	..	5	2	28	59	55	35	339	537	408
1934	..	..	..	..	2	7	5	5	..	29	61	41	25	154	329	246
1935	..	..	..	..	4	7	3	3	1	22	151	34	55	233	513	374
1936	..	..	..	..	3	15	12	2	..	11	115	50	31	250	489	381
1937	14	..	..	..	7	9	5	4	3	16	110	29	30	174	401	338
1938	9	..	..	..	6	12	7	1	..	15	66	30	15	81	242	196
1939	..	..	..	..	4	9	5	1	2	26	37	44	10	111	249	211

## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Our knowledge of these diseases is gained from two sources :—

- (1) by means of weekly returns from the Headmasters of Schools.
- (2) by means of weekly returns from the Health Visitors.

The following Table gives a resume of the information received :—

TABLE No. 14.

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Whooping Cough	35	28	42	4	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	115
Chickenpox ...	8	4	2	3	2	—	5	—	—	1	—	4	29
Measles ...	2	—	3	4	11	13	—	—	—	1	—	—	34
Mumps ...	—	2	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	16
German Measles	—	2	1	5	41	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	85
Impetigo ...	7	—	13	1	5	—	—	—	6	4	15	13	64
Scabies ...	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	4	11	12	35
Ringworm ...	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Conjunctivitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals ...	56	38	71	19	65	52	5	—	7	11	29	31	384

In the early part of the year Whooping Cough was prevalent, but by the middle of the year had disappeared. For the first time since 1937 Chickenpox was very uncommon during the year. There have not been anything like so few cases since 1931. Measles was uncommon during the year, but there was a considerable number of cases of German Measles in May and June. Mumps was practically non-existent. Scabies and Impetigo continued relatively high, although lower than during the previous year.

### SPECIAL INVESTIGATION.

During the latter part of the year, from the Summer holidays onwards, visits were paid to the various Schools with a view to ascertaining what were the main causes of absence of children in the Primary Departments. Charts were made out for each school, noting the day when any pupil went off and the reputed cause of absence. In addition to this the total amount of absence was counted and the amount due to various factors calculated. Admittedly, information at our disposal was not entirely complete regarding "cause of absence," for instance, but it was thought that the results of our enquiry would be of interest. There was a great deal of difference in the amount of illness at the various Schools, perhaps the most outstanding fact was the almost entire absence of illness and of absentee-ism in Riccarton School. Only three children out of 120 were off during the term. In each case Impetigo was the cause. A total of 67 days was lost.

The greatest cause of absence in all the other schools was chills or colds. The main causes of absence are included in the table which follows.

TABLE No. 15.

School.	School Population at Risk (Primary Classes).	Total Days' Absence	Causes of Absence.			
			First.	Second.	Third.	Fourth.
St. Joseph's	765	2875	686 days—Chill or Cold	375 days—Impetigo.	243 days—Influenza.	181 days—Tonsillitis.
Hillhead ...	639	1367	315 days—Chill or Cold	223 days—Impetigo.	189 days—Tonsillitis.	138 days—Scabies.
Glencairn ...	544	2999	658 days—Chill or Cold	401 days—Tonsillitis.	137 days—Scarlet Fever	125 days—Injury.
Bentinck ...	543	1352	326 days—Chill or Cold	254 days—Scarlet Fever	183 days—Tonsillitis.	127 days—Scabies.
Grange ...	542	2346	469 days—Chill or Cold	282 days—Scarlet Fever	192 days—Tonsillitis.	134 days—Influenza.
Academy ...	453	1314	503 days—Chill or Cold	184 days—Scarlet Fever	121 days—Tonsillitis.	92 days—Whooping Cough
Grammar ...	379	1822	464 days—Chill or Cold	247 days—Tonsillitis.	189 days—Scarlet Fever	117 days—Impetigo.
High Street	258	472	102 days—Chill or Cold	102 days—Impetigo.	63 days—Debility.	46 days—Tonsillitis.
Loanhead ...	151	546	228 days—Chill or Cold	38 days—Bronchitis.	28 days—Scabies.	28 days—Ear Conditions.
Riccarton ...	120	67	67 days—Impetigo.	—	—	—

The regular recurrence of Scarlet Fever in the second or third place, of Impetigo and of Tonsillitis is to be noted. Grouping all schools together the greatest cause of illness and absence was, of course, Chills and Colds—3,751 days, the second place was taken by Tonsillitis—1,560 days, the third place by Scarlet Fever—1,046 days, and the fourth place by Impetigo—1,017 days.

It is proposed, if possible, to carry out a similar investigation in the Autumn term of 1940 with a view to making a comparison.

### Laboratory Diagnosis.

In September, as a result of the outbreak of War, the Department of Health set up an Emergency Laboratory Scheme, whereby this Authority was attached to the Hannah Dairy Research Laboratory for the sending of specimens. Earlier in the year our own small Municipal Laboratory had started to function. This was set up primarily with a view to having quicker results in the case of Diphtheria Swabs, and such Swabs have continued to be done locally. The Emergency Laboratory has been used for other investigations, such as those necessary under the Joint V.D. Scheme, which were previously carried out in the County Laboratory, Ayr.

The following shows the amount of work done locally during the year :—

TABLE No. 16.

Nature of Specimen.	Number	Examined for.	Result.
Swabs ... ..	67	Diphtheria Bacilli ... ..	8 positive.
Sputa ... ..	25	23 Tuberculosis ... ..	5 positive.
		1 Pertussis ... ..	—
		1 Pneumococci ... ..	1 positive.
Smears ... ..	16	Gonococci, etc. ... ..	9 positive.
Urines ... ..	54	General and Bacteriological	
Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	5	General Analysis and	
		Meningococci ... ..	1 positive.
Faeces ... ..	3	Blood ... ..	—
Blood ... ..	1	Urea Estimation ... ..	—
Pleural Fluid ... ..	1	General Analysis ... ..	—
Total ... ..	172		

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE :—Number typed 160.

### Disinfection.

This process is carried out by the Sanitary Department generally in the houses of the patients.

### Immunisation Against Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

With regard to active immunisation against Scarlet Fever there is nothing of interest to report during the year.

With regard to Diphtheria, however, the work carried out is detailed under Diphtheria in the Infectious Diseases part of the Report, see page 19.



## KIRKLANDSIDE HOSPITAL

The Staff includes :—

The Matron.  
2 Sisters.  
4 Staff Nurses.  
9 Probationers.

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Superintendent and is responsible for the treatment of patients.

During the year a considerable amount of money was spent in carrying out improvements. A list of some of these is appended :—

(1) The provision of 7 Wheeled Soiled Linen Containers ...	...	£30
(2) The installation of 7 Bed Pan Sterilizers ...	...	£250
(3) The conversion of a Milk Store into a Refrigerator ...	...	£125
(4) The installation of a Steam Heated Hot Closet in the Kitchen		£100
(5) The provision of Electric Bells in certain bedrooms and side rooms ...	... ..	£30

In addition to the above, certain minor alterations to the hot water supply of Ward 1 were carried out during the year, resulting in much improved conditions.

In the early Summer a "Both" Respirator ("Iron Lung") was received as a result of Lord Nuffield's recent benefaction to hospitals.

Details of patients admitted are set out in Table No. 21. Generally it may be said that the hospital experienced a quiet year. The greatest number of in-patients was 48 on 22nd November, and the least number was 16 on the 21st of May.

In terms of the scheme for the training of nurses under the auspices of the General Nursing Council, one nurse passed the first part of the Fever Certificate Examination during the year.

### Scarlet Fever.

163 patients were admitted as suffering from Scarlet Fever—104 from the Burgh, including 8 evacuees, and 59 from the County area, including 4 evacuees. On two occasions the Scarlet Fever was accompanied by Chickenpox. In one case a child sent in as suffering from Scarlet Fever proved to be suffering from German Measles, and in one patient sent in as suffering from Scarlet Fever the diagnosis was not confirmed. There were no deaths from the disease during the year. Six of the patients were admitted with Scarlet Fever following burns. All made a good recovery. A patient was admitted from the Infirmary to which Institution he had been admitted for the treatment of a fractured femur. Another patient was admitted from the Infirmary a few days after Tonsillectomy.

The commonest complication was Adenitis, noted 20 times. A curious feature of this complication was that 19 of the 20 were noted in Burgh cases. There were 10 cases of Otorrhoea and 4 cases of Arthritis. Rhinitis was noted 13 times and Albuminuria 10 times. Other complications noted were Cardiac conditions on 3 occasions and Sinusitis once.

## Diphtheria.

96 patients were admitted to hospital as suffering from Diphtheria, 37 of the patients being admitted from the Burgh and the remaining 59 from the County area.

In 5 instances the original diagnosis made prior to admission had to be altered, and in other 23 cases negative swabs were returned from cases clinically resembling Diphtheria. Two patients were admitted as carriers.

Four patients were admitted as suffering from Laryngeal Diphtheria. One child from the County area had faucial involvement as well. She recovered with steam treatment. The other 3 patients were from the Burgh. In only one instance was the diagnosis confirmed. This child recovered with steam treatment. The other two patients, one a child and one an adult female, proved to be suffering from Streptococcal Croup and recovered with steam treatment.

There were 2 deaths from Diphtheria during the year, one occurring in a boy of 12 years from Toxic Diphtheria (admitted from Stewarton) and one in a girl of 9 years from Haemorrhagic Diphtheria (admitted from the Burgh). Both of these children were admitted on the fourth day of disease. This death rate of 2% is the lowest rate we have experienced for many years.

Two patients had tonsils removed on account of persistent positive swabs. On one occasion Cervical Glands required incision, and on another occasion a small abscess on the arm required similar treatment.

The following Table gives the complications met with :—

TABLE No. 17.

	Number.	Percentage of Patients Admitted.
Enlarged Glands ... ..	28	28.9
Albuminuria ... ..	7	7.3
Rhinitis ... ..	5	5.2
Palatal Paralysis ... ..	5	5.2
Paralysis of Eye Muscles ... ..	4	4.2
Paralysis of Lower Limbs ... ..	2	2.1
Otorrhoea ... ..	1	1.0

94 patients received Antitoxin during the year in doses varying from 4,000 units to 120,000 units. 12 patients received Streptococcus Antitoxin (Scarlatina) in addition. The routine method of administration was by the intramuscular route, but again the severe cases were all given intravenous serum or, failing this, intraperitoneal serum.

During the year 15 patients were received as suffering from Diphtheria who had been immunised against the disease. 3 patients were from the Burgh and 12 from the County. The particulars of the cases are set out below.



TABLE No. 18.

No.	Reference.	Age.	Where from.	Sex.	Time between Injections & Admission.	Whether Post Schick Done.	Clinical Condition.	Type of Illness.	Culture.	Result.
1	D.J.	7	B.	M.	1 Year	Negative	Tonsils Patched.	Mild	P.	R.
2	M.L.	9	B.	F.	3 Years	Negative	Clinical Diphtheria	Moderate	P.	R.
3	E.T.	2	B.	F.	6 Months	No.	Streptococcal Croup	Severe	N.	R.
4	F.F.	8	C.	M.	1 Year	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Moderate	P.	R.
5	W.B.	8	C.	M.	4 Years	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Moderately Severe	P.	R.
6	J.C.	12	C.	M.	3 Years	No.	Tonsils Patched	Mild	N.	R.
7	G.F.	7	C.	M.	1 Year	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Mild	P.	R.
8	W.R.	9	C.	M.	2 Years	No.	Inflamed Throat	Mild	P.	R.
9	H.S.	6	C.	M.	1 Year	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Mild	N.	R.
10	A.M.	6	C.	F.	1 Year	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Moderate	N.	R.
11	M.G.	5	C.	M.	1 Year	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Severe	N.	R.
12	I.G.	5	C.	F.	2 Years	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Moderate	P.	R.
13	A.W.	14	C.	M.	2 Years	No.	Clear Throat	—	P.	R.
14	J.Mc.	14	C.	M.	2 Years	No.	Tonsils Patched	Mild	P.	R.
15	J.M.	10	C.	M.	1 Year	No.	Clinical Diphtheria	Mild	P.	R.

B.—Burgh.

C.—County.

N.—Negative.

P.—Positive.

R.—Recovered.

### Enteric Fever.

During the year 3 patients were admitted as suffering from Enteric Fever. One patient, a boy of 12 years, from the Burgh, had a mild illness. The other two patients were from the County area, a boy of 16 years, from Saltcoats, who had a severe attack, and a woman of 47 years, from Darvel, who had a mild attack. All three infections proved to be by the *b. paratyphosis* (B). All three patients made a good recovery.

### Erysipelas.

23 patients were admitted as suffering from Erysipelas. In 22 instances the diagnosis was confirmed, and on one occasion the condition turned out to be a Cellulitis. Of the 22 confirmed cases, 16 were affections of the face, 5 of the leg, and 1 of the arm. Of the 22 patients 8 were males and 14 females. Their ages ranged from 18 months to 73 years. There were no deaths.

One of the female patients, age 19 years, was found, in addition to having a severe facial Erysipelas, to be in an advanced state of pregnancy. She was delivered of a full-time female child 11 days after admission. Both mother and child did well.

In this disease, as is well known, the sulphonamides and sulphapyridine drugs are specific. In a small way the local figures bear this out. There have been no deaths from Erysipelas since 1937, and in the last four years three have been free from fatal cases of this disease. The death rate since using the drug has been more than halved, when compared with a similar number of years before the drug was in use.

### Puerperal Infections.

In 1939 there were 8 patients admitted with Puerperal infections. All made a good recovery. The Table which follows gives particulars of the patients treated :—

TABLE No. 19.

Case No.	Age.	Day of Puerperium when Admitted.	Cervical Swab.	Diagnosis.	Result.
1	32	18th	—	Pyrexia due to Chest Condition	Recovery
2	18	13th	—	Local Sepsis (mild)	Recovery
3	28	5th	+	Local Sepsis (moderate)	Recovery
4	24	6th	—	Septic Abortion (severe)	Recovery
5	18	5th	—	Local Sepsis (moderate)	Recovery
6	19	4th	+	Local Sepsis (severe)	Recovery
7	30	3rd	—	Septic Abortion (moderate)	Recovery
8	35	8th	—	Local Sepsis (moderate)	Recovery

The average duration of stay in hospital was just under 20 days per patient. Case No. 4 required a blood transfusion. Case No. 8 showed a bacillus in the vaginal discharge very similar to *b. Diphtheria*, and the discharge cleared up rapidly after an injection of Antitoxin.

### Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

Six patients were admitted as suffering from Cerebro-Spinal Fever. In the 3 instances that acute Meningitis was confirmed the patients died—one 3 days, one 4 days, and one 2 hours after admission. This is a disappointing result in view of the fact that others appear to get much more satisfactory results with treatment similar to that adopted in this hospital, namely, sulphanilamide 6-9 grams per day as a standard dose, plus meningococcus antitoxin intravenously in doses of 60 to 90 c.c. for the first two or three days. The Table which follows gives particulars of the cases admitted :—

TABLE No. 20.

Case No.	Sex.	Age.	C.S. Fluid Contained.	Diagnosis.	Result.
1	F	27	No Organisms	Typical Acute Meningitis	Died
2	F	66	Meningococci	C.S. Fever	Died
3	M	7	No Organisms	Meningismus ( + Wassermann)	Recovered
4	M	10 mos.	No Organisms	Meningismus (Rickets)	Recovered
5	M	17	Meningococci	C.S. Fever	Died
6	M	19	No Organisms	Septic Sore Throat	Recovered

### Other Diseases.

On 8th December, 1939, we were asked by the Medical Officer attached to the 79th Fd. Reg. to take into our Hospital for isolation a soldier who had developed a curious illness. We arranged for isolation at once, and the history of the case was as follows :—

The soldier had sickened with headache, sore throat and general malaise. On admission to hospital he had a temperature of 100° and pulse 96, general flushed appearance, a patch on the right tonsil and ulcerated mouth. The eyes were painful as was also the throat. There were spots all over the body. They appeared like pink papules, somewhat irregular in shape, many elliptical, with a slightly purplish tinge. These spots were first thought to be a secondary syphilide, but as they developed into vesicles and papules the condition became more like the rash of smallpox or chickenpox. The Wassermann reaction proved negative, and fresh spots came out in crops for a few days. The throat did not clear up quickly. A haemolytic streptococcus was eventually isolated, and the throat cleared up after a course of sulphanilamide.

The spots were definitely centrifugal in distribution. For instance, on the right upper limb there were 19 spots on the hand and wrist, 12 on the forearm, and 6 on the upper arm. On the left upper limb and the other limbs a similar type of distribution was noted. There were several spots on the face, 2 on the neck and the trunk was very scantily marked.

The distribution then was in some respects that of a smallpox case, and the spots were like those of the mild type of smallpox seen so frequently in England between 1924 and 1928. The interesting point was that the man had been vaccinated in infancy and had also been vaccinated one month before he turned ill. The differential diagnosis seemed to be between smallpox, chickenpox and vaccinia. Smallpox could surely be ruled out on account of the recent vaccination and the vaccination in infancy. Chickenpox was a possibility, and so the contacts of this man were examined. He had been in contact with a troop in his regiment consisting of 36 men varying in age from 19 to 39 years, the mean age being well under 30. All these men had been vaccinated a month before. In 5 cases the vaccination had not taken. In each of these cases except one there were good marks on the arm from previous vaccination. 29 of the 36 showed good marks from vaccination in infancy. The past history with regard to chickenpox was also taken. On only 2 occasions had men suffered from chickenpox previously. Enquiry regarding illness during the past month was carried out, and apart from the usual reactionary illness during the height of the vaccination which occurred in 7 of the 36 cases, there had been no case of serious illness. Enquiry regarding spots of any kind was made, and apart from some acne there appeared to be only one very localised case of possible vaccinia in a young man of 19 years. Chickenpox was not prevalent in the district during the time, and enquiries from all 36 men did not lead to any history of contact with chickenpox or with herpes. The health history of the men of this troop was followed during the month following the development of the man's illness with the help of Captain Speirs, Medical Officer to the 79th Fd. Reg. Apart from some small furuncles and acne, no person in the troop suffered from spots during the following month to six weeks, and only one developed an influenzal-like illness. On no occasion did chickenpox develop. In view of the fact that the vaccination had been so complete, smallpox could be ruled out. In view of the fact that only 2 out of the 36 contacts had previously suffered from chickenpox, that none developed the disease in the month to six weeks that followed, and that the patient himself gave a clear history of having suffered from chickenpox at the age of 12 (confirmed by medical opinion), it was considered unlikely that the man had been infected with chickenpox.

The conclusion come to was that the man had been suffering from vaccinia, although the time elapsing between the vaccination and the development of the rash was much longer than is usual in such cases.

TABLE NO. 21.  
THE WORK OF THE HOSPITAL.

Disease.	No. in Hospital.	Admissions during the Year.					Patient Days.			Deaths	No. in Hospital
		Under 1 Year.	1 and Under 5	5 and under 15	15 and over	Total	Burgh	County	County		
Scarlet Fever ... ..	14	2	59	89	13	163	104	59	2292	162	15
Diphtheria ... ..	8	—	12	51	33	96	37	59	2247	91	11
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	1	2	20	23	14	9	138	22	1
Puerperal Infections ...	—	—	—	—	8	8	8	—	156	8	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever...	—	1	—	1	4	6	5	1	3	3	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	2	7	—	—	9	8	1	29	9	—
Pneumonia ... ..	—	2	2	—	3	7	4	3	85	5	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	—	—	1	2	3	1	2	41	4	—
Ophth. Neonatorum ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	53	1	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	11	1	—
Mumps... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	11	1	—
Anthrax ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	38	1	—
Scabies... ..	—	2	1	—	—	3	3	—	79	3	—
Impetigo ... ..	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	37	2	—
Influenza ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	15	1	—
Vaccinia ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	24	—	1
Tonsillitis ... ..	—	—	—	2	—	3	3	—	25	—	—
Enteritis ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	6	1	—
	24	10	83	149	88	330	195	135	4914	318	28



## TUBERCULOSIS

There were 44 notifications in respect of Tuberculosis during 1939. Of this number 29 were in respect of pulmonary cases and 15 were in respect of non-pulmonary cases. These numbers represent an increase in the number of notifications over the previous year. There were 11 more pulmonary and 3 more non-pulmonary notifications than in 1938. The particulars as to age and sex can be seen from the Table No. 24. Of the 28 confirmed cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis 10 had a history of exposure to infection in childhood.

Of the 44 cases notified during the year 37 were removed to a Sanatorium. In the case of 3 patients notification of the disease was only received after death. 3 cases refused sanatorium treatment, and in 1 case the diagnosis of tuberculosis was not confirmed.

During the year 67 patients were referred for X-Ray examinations at Kilmarnock Infirmary, 101 X-Rays being carried out.

At the end of the year there were 189 persons on the tuberculosis register, representing 0.46% of the population. Of the 189 persons, 114 were pulmonary and 75 were non-pulmonary cases. This shows a continuation of the tendency for the number of known cases of tuberculosis in the Burgh to fall. The number on the register last year was 192.

There were 23 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, 18 being in respect of pulmonary cases and 5 in respect of non-pulmonary cases. The number of deaths from the disease is the same as occurred last year. Of the 18 pulmonary deaths 13 were males and 5 were females.

The ages at death of the female cases ranged from 1 year to 39 years, but 5 out of the 8 deaths occurred between the ages of 19 and 28.

The following figures are the results of the records of the last ten years. During that time there have been exactly 500 notifications of the disease. The percentage incidences of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in certain of the large groups of workers in the town over this period are appended.

Labourers ... ..	1.9	Female Domestics ...	0.9
Female Textile Workers...	1.5	Male Metal Workers ...	0.8
Male Makers of Articles		Male Shop Assistants ...	0.8
of Dress ... ..	1.5	Female Shop Assistants ...	0.8
Female Typists and		Male Transport Workers...	0.7
Clerkesses ... ..	1.5	Female Workers of Articles	
Miners ... ..	1.4	of Dress ... ..	0.5
Male Typists and Clerks ...	1.0		

The following Tables give further particulars of the work done during the year :—

TABLE No. 22.

## HOME VISITING.

	Districts.				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Number of cases visited (after notification) ... ..	8	8	10	14	40
Number of old cases visited ...	31	54	33	27	145
Observation cases, etc. ... ..	3	3	1	1	8
Total visits to all cases ... ..	91	169	96	86	442

There follows a Table representing the work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

TABLE No. 23.

	Number Attended.		Attendances.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
New cases ... ..	12	8	29	12
Old cases ... ..	18	32	113	128
Observation cases or contacts	11	21	26	37
	41	61	168	177

During the year 67 patients received Domiciliary Treatment.

The following Table gives particulars of the notifications during the year :—

TABLE No. 24.

		Age Groups.									Number of cases notified during year in which diagnosis of Tuberculosis has been confirmed.	
		Under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over	Total	Under 15	15 and over
Pulmonary ...	Males	—	—	—	4	8	—	3	—	15	—	—
do. ...	Females	—	—	2	7	4	1	—	—	14	—	1
Non-Pulmonary	Males	—	4	—	2	—	1	—	—	7	—	—
do.	Females	1	3	—	2	2	—	—	—	8	—	—



The Table which follows shows the arrangements for institutional treatment for 1939 :—

TABLE No. 25.

		In Institutions on January 1st	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in Institutions.	In Institutions December 31st
Pulmonary	...	7	30	23	7	7
	...	6	16	11	—	11
do.	Children—Males	—	—	—	—	—
	Females	—	2	1	—	1
Non-Pulmonary	...	6	2	5	2	1
	...	5	3	3	—	5
do.	Children—Males	3	5	4	—	4
	Females	2	9	5	1	5
	Total	29	67	52	10	34

The following Tables show the number of persons in the Area at 31st December, 1939, who were known to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

TABLE No. 26.

	Age Groups.								
	Under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total
PULMONARY—									
1. Sputum not present									
{ Males	—	2	1	7	—	3	1	—	14
{ Females	—	2	2	3	—	—	—	—	7
2. Sputum present but not examined									
{ Males	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	5
{ Females	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	3
3. Sputum examined and Tubercle Bacilli found									
{ Males	—	—	—	4	4	6	5	—	19
{ Females	—	—	2	4	7	5	1	1	20
4. Sputum examined and Tubercle Bacilli never found									
{ Males	—	—	—	2	7	4	5	—	18
{ Females	—	—	2	12	9	2	3	—	28
PULMONARY TOTAL ... ..	—	4	8	33	28	23	17	1	114

TABLE 26 (CONTINUED).

	Age Groups.									
	Under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Total	
NON-PULMONARY—										
1. Abdominal ...	{ Males 1 Females	3	5	2	1	—	1	—	12	
2. Spine ...	{ Males Females	2	4	1	5	—	—	—	13	
3. Bones and Joints (exclusive of Spine)	{ Males Females	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	
4. Superficial Glands	{ Males Females	1	—	1	3	1	1	—	7	
5. Lupus ...	{ Males Females	3	4	2	1	1	—	—	11	
6. Other Parts or Organs	{ Males Females	1	5	1	—	1	—	1	9	
	{ Males Females	1	4	1	1	—	—	—	7	
	{ Males Females	1	—	5	2	1	—	—	9	
	{ Males Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	{ Males Females	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
	{ Males Females	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	
	{ Males Females	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	
NON-PULMONARY TOTAL ...		1	13	22	17	15	4	2	1	75
PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY TOTAL ...		1	17	30	50	43	27	19	2	189

TABLE No. 27.

Return of number of persons who died from Tuberculosis in the Area during the year 1939, with particulars as to period elapsing between notification and death, and between discharge from an Institution and death :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number of persons who died from Tuberculosis	13	5	2	3
Of whom—				
Not notified or notified only at or after death	2	—	1	2
Notified less than 1 month before death	1	1	—	—
" from 1 to 3 months before death	4	—	1	—
" from 3 to 6 months before death	2	1	—	—
" from 6 to 12 months before death	—	2	—	—
" from 1 to 2 years before death	1	—	—	1
" over 2 years before death	3	1	—	—
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an Institution	—	2	—	—
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an Institution	3	2	—	—

## KAIMSHILL SANATORIUM

The Staff includes :—

- The Matron.
- 1 Sister.
- 1 Staff Nurse.
- 1 Assistant Nurse.
- 2 Probationers.

The Medical Officer acts as Medical Superintendent.

At the beginning of 1939 there were 18 patients in residence, 13 from the Burgh and 5 from the County. During the year 41 patients were admitted, being a decrease of 8 over the number admitted during 1938. Of the 41 patients admitted 28 were from the Burgh and 13 were from the County. Further particulars with regard to the admission and progress of patients can be seen from Table No. 28.

4 patients received treatment with Tuberculin during 1939 in graduated doses. Crisalbine was used in the treatment of 8 of the patients and Pneumo-Thorax in the treatment of 7.

25 patients were X-rayed during 1939 and 9 patients received dental treatment. On two occasions patients had their eyes tested and spectacles provided.

Shortly after the outbreak of war steps were taken to protect a certain amount of the accommodation available for both patients and staff. This had the effect of cutting down the accommodation by one bed.

It is regrettable that the scheme under consideration by the Town Council of new premises for the treatment of Tuberculosis has been delayed indefinitely by the outbreak of hostilities. The present sanatorium buildings are in many respects unsatisfactory from the point of view of both patients and staff. In inclement weather the lack of any form of central heating in the Wards and Nurses' Bedrooms is very noticeable. If the hospital is to function satisfactorily for any length of time this matter will require to receive attention.

The Kaimshill Mission Workers are again to be thanked for the interest they have taken in the welfare of the patients throughout the year.

### Other Institutional Treatment.

In addition to the 59 patients receiving treatment in Kaimshill Sanatorium the following is a note of the treatment given in other institutions :—

- 24 patients received treatment in Glenafton Sanatorium.
- 18 patients received treatment in St. Andrew's Home, Millport.
- 6 patients received treatment in Biggart Home, Prestwick.
- 5 patients received treatment in Bridge of Weir.
- 2 patients received treatment in other institutions.

TABLE No. 28.

There follows a Table showing particulars of the admissions and discharges to Kaimshill during the Year :—

		ADMISSIONS.								DISCHARGES.						Deaths.		Number in Hospital, 31/12/39.			
		Number in Hospital, 1/1/39.		1 and under 5.		5 and under 15.		15 and over.		Total.		Improved.		Not Improved.						Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
BURGH—																					
	5	4	—	—	—	2	20	6	20	8	8	6	8	1	16	7	5				
	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	3	1	—				
COUNTY—																					
	1	2	—	—	—	—	6	4	6	4	1	2	1	—	2	2	3				
	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	1				



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

During 1939 the Staff of the Burgh Maternity Home consisted of :—

- The Matron.
- 2 Sisters.
- 5 Staff Nurses.
- 1 Assistant Nurse.
- 5 Pupil Midwives (including 3 Refugee Midwives).

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Medical Superintendent. Dr. E. M. McKendrick acts as Resident Medical Officer. Up to the outbreak of war Dr. W. I. C. Morris acted as Consultant Obstetrician and since his departure on military service the work has been carried on by Dr. W. Clement. Dr. Robert McG. C. Crawford was appointed Consulting Radiologist for the Burgh Maternity Home during the year.

As in past years the Clinic work was carried on mainly at the Central Clinic Premises, Green Street, and also at the new Clinic established in 1938 in the Knockinlaw Institute, Longpark. There are three Health Visitors at the former centre and one at Longpark.

In the Clinic Premises at Green Street there is a workroom for Voluntary Workers.

### The Work of the Maternity Home.

The Home provides 32 beds for maternity cases. It is situated in a quiet country district and has again been much appreciated by the mothers making use of it. During the year an additional piece of ground was added to the feu in order to preserve the amenity of the institution. Steps were also taken to ensure the planting of additional trees along Holmes Road with the same object in view.

In 1939, 644 patients were admitted to the Home. 503 confinements took place, 512 babies being born.

The percentage of instrumental deliveries during the year was 8·8. This is to be compared with an average rate for the years 1934-1938 (inclusive) of 15·6%.

The following Table shows the places of residence of the patients admitted to the Home :—

Kilmarnock Burgh	...	...	...	...	...	546
County of Ayr	...	...	...	...	...	82
Ayr Burgh	...	...	...	...	...	9
Barrhead	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glasgow	...	...	...	...	...	1

In addition to the above, 5 patients admitted were Evacuees.

During 1939, 604 births occurred in institutions in the town. This gave a percentage of the total births notified of 67·6. This figure continues to increase yearly. The fees collected in the Burgh Maternity Home during the year amounted to £1,745 8s 6d, as compared with £1,635 7s 6d in the previous year.

The following Table shows the percentage of births which have taken place in institutions in recent years :—

TABLE No. 29.

Year.	Total Number of Births Notified.	Births Occurring in Institutions.	
		Number.	Percentage of Total Births Notified.
1933 ... ..	879	507	57.7%
1935 ... ..	863	560	65.0%
1937 ... ..	868	564	65.0%
1939 ... ..	893	604	67.6%

### Summary of the Work of the Home.

Number of confinements	...	...	...	...	...	503
Number of babies born	...	...	...	...	...	512
Normal confinements	...	...	...	...	...	449
With private doctor	...	...	...	...	...	91
Without private doctor	...	...	...	...	...	358
Abnormal or complicated confinements	...	...	...	...	...	83
Caesarean sections	...	...	...	...	...	6
Instrumental deliveries	...	...	...	...	...	45
Other deliveries	...	...	...	...	...	32
Number of women having antenatal care at Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	416
Number of women admitted for antenatal care	...	...	...	...	...	73
Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of still-births	...	...	...	...	...	17

### ANTENATAL CASES.

73 expectant mothers were admitted for antenatal treatment. The conditions for which these patients were admitted and the results of treatment are appended :—

Conditions.	Cases.	Results of Treatment.
Pyelitis ... ..	6	1 was delivered with a breech presentation; both mother and child were well. 1 had to be induced medically and surgically, was transfused twice and after a normal delivery of a live child was transferred to Kilmarnock Infirmary owing to her extreme anaemia. 1 was delivered normally of a live child; had a retained placenta but recovered and was discharged well. 3 were treated, discharged and since have had normal confinements.

*Conditions.*                      *Cases.*                      *Results of Treatment.*

Albuminuria,            including	44	33 mothers were confined normally; 2
Oedema and High Blood		required caesarean section; 1 dev-
Pressure ...    ...    ...		eloped ante-partum eclampsia which
		resulted in a still-birth and 1 dev-
		eloped post-partum eclampsia. There
		were 3 forceps delivered.

*ies*

After normal delivery, 1 mother dev-  
eloped a pulmonary embolus but was  
discharged well. There were 2  
instances of retained placenta and 1  
of severe anaemia.

27 of the above had high blood pressure,  
23 had oedema, 7 had to be treated  
by induction, 5 of the latter having  
premature infants 1 of which died.

Cardiac Condition    ...    ...	2	1 was delivered normally of a live child.
(Mitral Stenosis)		1 was surgically induced; the child
		was very premature and died.

Chronic Bronchitis    ...    ...	1	Improved. Later delivered normally.
----------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------

Hyperemesis Gravidarum ...	11	9 of these were discharged improved.
		1 has since been confined normally
		of a healthy child. 1 was discharged
		well, but later aborted completely.

Thrombophlebitis    ...    ...	3	All improved. 1 miscarried later and
		2 had normal full-time deliveries.

Debility and Anaemia    ...	6	3 of these were twin pregnancy cases;
		all were delivered normally, 1 later
		had a phlegmasia. 1 case was removed
		to Kilmarnock Infirmary for treatment
		as a pernicious anaemia.

## ABORTIONS.

There were 69 cases of abortion. The results of treatment are appended :—

<i>Conditions.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Results of Treatment.</i>
Complete Abortion ... ..	1	Recovered.
Septic Abortion ... ..	1	Recovered. Removed to Kirklandside Hospital after being given a blood transfusion.
Threatened Abortion ... ..	5	3 of these went home well and are awaiting confinement. 2 have since been confined normally.
Incomplete Abortion ... ..	49	All recovered after removal of retained products.
Miscarriage ... ..	12	All recovered.
Therapeutic Abortion ...	1	This was performed on account of Tuberculosis of the mother. She was later removed to Glenafton Sanatorium for treatment.

## FORCEPS DELIVERIES.

There were 45 forceps deliveries :—

<i>Conditions.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Results of Treatment.</i>
Prolonged Labour ... ..	9	8 mothers made uneventful recoveries. 1 child died after 24 hours from cerebral haemorrhage and 1 mother developed puerperal sepsis but recovered.
Persistent Occipito-Posterior	7	All delivered satisfactorily.
Contracted Pelvis ... ..	2	Both delivered satisfactorily.
Maternal distress ... ..	4	All delivered satisfactorily.
Foetal distress ... ..	5	All mothers well. 3 normal deliveries and 2 still-births.
Albuminuria with High Blood Pressure ... ..	11	All mothers recovered but 1 developed puerperal infection. All babies except 1 were delivered alive, including 2 sets of twins. 1 twin was macerated.
Eclampsia ... ..	1	Mother delivered satisfactorily.
Failed Forceps ... ..	2	Both mothers recovered. Both children were still-born.
Anaemia and Debility ...	4	All delivered satisfactorily.

## OTHER ABNORMAL OR COMPLICATED CONFINEMENTS.

There were 33 abnormal confinements. The conditions found and the results of treatment are appended :—

<i>Conditions.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Results of Treatment.</i>
Breech (Primiparous) ... ..	5	1 was a failed version owing to the fact that she bled on the attempt being made. 1 had a prolapsed cord. All were confined with live children.
Breech (Multiparous) ... ..	4	1 suffered from pre-eclamptic toxæmia. The confinement was satisfactory, both mother and child coming through well. 1 had internal version performed on account of hand presentation ; this resulted in a still-birth. 1 had antepartum hæmorrhage and a macerated foetus was obtained. 1 had a still-birth following extreme albuminuria.
Rupture of Uterus before admission ... ..	1	Occurred as a result of an incomplete miscarriage ; sub-total hysterectomy was performed.
Placenta Prævia ... ..	2	Both babies born alive but 1 died later. Caesarean section performed.
Contracted Pelvis ... ..	2	1 complicated with prolapsed cord. 1 resulting in still-birth. Caesarean section performed.
Pre-Eclampsia ... ..	2	High Blood pressure plus albuminuria in both cases. Both did well. Caesarean section performed.
Eclampsia ... ..	3	1 mother had a forceps delivery, resulting in a still-birth. 1 mother had premature labour with a still-birth and died. 1 mother had labour induced, mis-carried completely and died.
Post-Partum Eclampsia ... ..	1	This developed after a normal delivery of a healthy child.
Prolapsed Cord ... ..	1	Delivered as a primiparous breech ; mother and child were both discharged well.
Hand Presentation ... ..	1	Normal delivery ; still-born child after internal version performed, converting presentation into breech.



<i>Conditions.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Results of Treatment.</i>
Craniotomy ... ..	4	3 on account of failed forceps; 1 on account of hydrocephalus. 1 case was an occipito posterior presentation with a complication of a rigid cervix; the mother developed puerperal fever and was removed to Kirklandside Hospital.
Blood Transfusions ... ..	7	All mothers were greatly improved. These were given for 2 incomplete abortions; 1 retained placenta; 1 central placenta praevia where caesarean section was performed; 1 ruptured uterus where hysterectomy was carried out; 1 post-partum haemorrhage and a case of pernicious anaemia.

## INDUCTION OF LABOUR.

<i>Conditions.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Results of Treatment.</i>
Medical Induction ... ..	14	6 for post-maturity; all normal deliveries with healthy babies. 6 were for albuminuria with high blood pressure. 2 were for tuberculosis, 1 of these being post-mature. Both women were confined normally with healthy infants.
Surgical Induction ... ..	4	2 of these were for antepartum haemorrhage. Both were delivered satisfactorily. 1 having a premature still-birth, the other a healthy infant. 1 was a twin pregnancy, complicated with albuminuria and high blood pressure, both mother and babies came through well. 1 was an eclampsia.
Medical plus Surgical Induction ... ..	6	3 of these were post-mature; all normal deliveries and all recovered. 1 tuberculosis patient recovered with live child. 2 were suffering from albuminuria with high blood pressure and all recovered.

## MATERNAL DEATHS.

There were 3 maternal deaths during the year. 2 mothers died from Eclampsia which came on in both cases in the seventh month of their pregnancy. Both were admitted after having had several fits. One died eight hours after admission, never having regained consciousness. The other was induced and delivered and then took one fit post-partum from which she died. The third patient died from Obstetric Shock, resulting from a retained placenta following the normal delivery of a healthy child.



## PUERPERAL MORBIDITY.

6 patients developed Puerperal Pyrexia. The details of these cases are as follows :—

- 2 infections followed difficult labours.
- 1 retained placenta.
- 1 influenza.
- 2 pyelitis.

## INFANTS.

There were 512 babies born (9 sets of twins). There were 17 still-births.

## STATISTICS.

The number of in-patient days was :—

Mothers	...	...	...	8567.
---------	-----	-----	-----	-------

The average duration of stay was 12 days.

The average number of beds occupied during the year was 23. The highest number occupied was 35 on 16th September and the lowest was 11 on 31st December.

## DENTAL TREATMENT.

This year a scheme has been brought into force by which antenatal women can be given dental treatment under general anaesthesia. If the teeth are so bad that they need complete clearance, then the mother is brought in to the Home one night, prepared, and the dental extractions are performed the following morning, the mother being allowed home in the evening. An arrangement has been made with the School Dental Surgeon by which she performs the extractions and the anaesthetic is given by the Resident Medical Officer.

7 cases had treatment from the time of commencement of the scheme in November until the end of 1939.

## X-RAY EXAMINATIONS.

Number of Patients X-Rayed	...	...	...	...	...	62
Doctors' Cases	...	...	...	...	...	43
Clinic Cases	...	...	...	...	...	19
Chest	...	...	...	...	...	4
Abdomen	...	...	...	...	...	51
Bone	...	...	...	...	...	7

### Notification of Births Act.

The duty of notifying a birth is placed upon the parents, medical attendant and midwife, and notification must be made within 36 hours of the occurrence of the birth. Only one of the above need notify, and the others need not if they have reason to believe that a notification has already been sent.

During 1939, 5 births failed to be notified.

The total number of notified births, including still-births, was 893, being 33 less than last year. 289 or 32·4% of these occurred in the patients' own homes. 503 or 56·3% occurred in the Burgh Maternity Home, and the remaining 101 or 11·3% occurred in other institutions.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(a) Number of births registered {legitimate ...	385	336	721
(including still-births). {illegitimate...	13	14	27
(b) Number of births notified {live-births ...	...	...	...
{still-births ...	...	...	...
(c) Number attended by doctors ...	...	...	...
Number attended by midwives ...	...	...	...
Number attended by doctors and midwives ...	...	...	...
			204
			524
			165

### Infantile Mortality.

The number of Infantile deaths during the year was 52. There was a slight preponderance of male deaths over female. Again the greatest single cause of death was prematurity. The infections, however, when grouped together, accounted for the greatest number of deaths, Whooping Cough causing 9 deaths, Pneumonia 7, and other infections 7. The number of neo-natal deaths was 27.

It is pleasant to relate that again the Infantile Mortality Rate for the Burgh shows a decrease, although there is no doubt that a much further decrease might take place if the knowledge available in baby nurture was more often carried into effect.

Full particulars regarding the exact causes of death, classified according to age at death, are to be seen in the Table which follows :—

TABLE No. 30.  
INFANTILE DEATHS.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.		1 and under 4 weeks.		1 and under 3 months.		3 and under 6 months.		6 and under 12 months.		Total.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Prematurity ...	8	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	16
Congenital Debility...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Marasmus ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	1	7	2	9
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	5	2	7
Acute Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2
Congenital Hydrocephalus...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Congenital Heart ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
White Asphyxia ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2
Volvulus ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Posterior Basic Meningitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
	11	11	2	3	2	2	8	—	8	5	31	21	52

### Maternal Mortality.

There were 3 maternal deaths in women normally resident in the Burgh. These occurred in the Burgh Maternity Home, and a note has been included under the work of the Home giving particulars of them.

In no one of the three instances was death due to Puerperal Sepsis.

### Control of Conception.

Six women were referred to the Clinic held by the Women's Welfare Association at 123 Montrose Street, Glasgow, during the year.

### Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915.

During the year frequent inspections of Midwives' Instruments, Bags, and Records were made.

The following is a list of Midwives who notified their intention to practise during the year 1939 :—

Name and Address.	No. of Certificate.	Qualifications.
Dunnelly, Mrs. Grace, 27 Hill Street ...	3381	Bona-fide
Fraser, Miss J. M. N., Municipal Midwife	8285	Trained
McLean, Mrs. Henrietta, 21 Corsehill Rows, Springside ... ..	1661	Bona-fide
Petrie, Miss M. E. Municipal Midwife ...	14037	Trained
Phillips, Mrs. C., 12 Irvine Road ...	3382	Bona-fide
Smith, Mrs. M., 70 Dean Street ... ..	4700	Trained

The above list does not include the Midwives in practice in our Maternity Home.

In accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board for Scotland, Midwives may send for the assistance of a medical practitioner in a case of emergency or difficulty, and the fees specified according to the services rendered are paid by the Local Authority, who are empowered to recover such fees from the persons concerned.

During 1939 there were 49 emergency calls as under :—

TABLE No. 31.

Conditions.							No. of Cases.
Delayed Labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Lacerated Perineum	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Embarrassment of Child	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Persistent Occipito-Posterior	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Difficulty in Labour	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Retained Placenta	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
High Temperature	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Breech Presentation	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Face Presentation	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ante-Partum Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Foot Presentation	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Uterine Inertia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	49

The Tables which follow deal further with the year's work of the midwives in the Burgh.

TABLE No. 32.  
MIDWIVES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1915.

BIRTHS.

Total number of births notified during 1939.	Total number of deaths of new born children (within ten days).	Actual number of births attended by Midwives.	Actual number of deaths of new born children (within ten days) occurring in the practice of Midwives.	Actual number of cases not attended by a Doctor or Midwife.	
				Births.	Deaths.
893	23	524	16	—	—

CASES OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Total number of cases during 1939.	Actual number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives.	Actual number of cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife.	
		Cases.	Deaths.
1	1	—	—

CASES OF PUERPERAL SEPSIS.

Total number of cases during 1939.	Total number of deaths.	Actual number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives.	Actual number of deaths occurring in the practice of Midwives.	Actual number of cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife.	
				Cases.	Deaths.
5	—	3	—	—	—



TABLE No. 32 (CONTINUED).

## CASES OF PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Total number of cases during 1939.	Total number of deaths.	Actual number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives.	Actual number of deaths occurring in the practice of Midwives.	Actual number of cases occurring where confinement not attended by a Doctor or Midwife.	
				Cases.	Deaths.
9	—	5	—	—	—

## CASES OF STILL-BIRTHS (DEAD BORN CHILDREN).

Total number of cases during 1939.	Actual number of cases occurring in the practice of Midwives during 1939.
28	10

As will be seen from Table No. 32 Midwives actually attended at 524 births. In connection with these cases 16 babies died within 10 days of birth and 3 cases developed Puerperal Sepsis. Of the 28 cases of still-births 10 occurred in the practice of Midwives.

#### NOTIFICATIONS FROM MIDWIVES.

The following notifications were received during the year :—

Sending for Medical Assistance ... ..	49
Notification of Intention to Practise ... ..	6
Still-birth Notifications ... ..	8
Notification of Source of Infection ... ..	2

#### General Report on the Working of the Acts.

In general the work has been carried on as in normal years.

One Midwife surrendered her Certificate in December, 1938 and compensation was adjusted in 1939 to the value of £300.

One Midwife surrendered her Certificate in March, 1939 and another in April, 1939. The compensation paid was £166 13s 4d, and £331 4s respectively.

#### Maternity Services (Scotland) Act, 1937.

The Maternity Services Scheme began to function on 16th March, 1939, 14 medical practitioners in the town having accepted service under the Scheme. Two Municipal Midwives were appointed, one on 21st March, 1939, and the other on 1st November, 1939.

During the period from the commencement of the Scheme till the end of the year 49 applications had been received from patients, and 4 transfers were received from the County Authority from patients who had made application under the County Scheme but had come to reside in this area. 34 confinements took place during the period, 14 patients were still under care at the end of the year, 4 patients were removed to the Burgh Maternity Home, and 1 application was subsequently cancelled.

There was 1 infantile death and 1 still-birth in the cases dealt with under the Scheme. One patient developed Puerperal Pyrexia and was removed to the Isolation Hospital.

The patients were transferred to the Burgh Maternity Home for the following conditions :—

Ante-Partum Haemorrhage (2) ;

Delayed Labour ;

Unsatisfactory home conditions.

**Antenatal Consultations.**

TABLE No. 33.

## ANTENATAL AND POSTNATAL CLINICS.

	Antenatal	Postnatal.
Number who attended ... ..	416	98
Number of attendances ... ..	1151	104

It will be seen that 416 women attended the Antenatal Clinic during 1939. Of these 68 were under care at the beginning of the year, so that 348 attended for the first time during the year.

Of the 416 women who attended during the year, 125 were primiparae 63 were still under care at the end of the year, 5 were found to be non-pregnant, and of those confined during 1939 the confinements took place as undernoted :—

In Burgh Maternity Home ... ..	275
At Home ... ..	32

With regard to the patients attending the Antenatal Clinic during 1939 the following abnormal conditions were found :—

High Blood Pressure ... ..	28
Oedema ... ..	24
Pre-Eclamptic Toxaemia ... ..	18
Phlebitis ... ..	5
Breech (multiparous) ... ..	2
Breech (primiparous) ... ..	3
Hyperemesis Gravidarum ... ..	2
Debility and Anaemia ... ..	11
Tuberculosis ... ..	5
Twin Pregnancies ... ..	3
Contracted Pelvis ... ..	2
Threatened Miscarriage ... ..	5
Antepartum Haemorrhage ... ..	3
Pyelitis ... ..	5
Cardiac Condition ... ..	3

Minor ailments such as Constipation, Heartburn, etc., were treated in a large number of cases.

Some evidence has been brought forward recently suggesting that the frequency of births in the early hours of the morning has been greater than at other parts of the day. With a view to finding out what the local circumstances were a thousand consecutive births in the Maternity Home during 1938 and 1939 were analysed as to time of occurrence. The following Table shows the births according to three-hourly periods :—

<i>Time.</i>					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Midnight to 3 a.m.	...	...	...	...	58	40	98
3-6 a.m.	...	...	...	...	71	70	141
6-9 a.m.	...	...	...	...	77	67	144
9-12 noon	...	...	...	...	76	70	146
Noon to 3 p.m.	...	...	...	...	70	55	125
3-6 p.m.	...	...	...	...	69	62	131
6-9 p.m.	...	...	...	...	51	45	96
9 p.m. to midnight	...	...	...	...	64	55	119

It will be seen that whilst births were frequent in the hours from 3-6 a.m. they were equally frequent for the following six hours. It would appear then from investigation that the nine hours from 3 a.m. until noon was the commonest time for birth. In analysing these figures further, however, it was found that there was no time that could be called a peak period. The male and female births seem to vary irregularly.

Furthermore, the effect of forceps deliveries on the time of birth was gone into, and it was found that they occurred fairly constantly throughout the 24 hours. There was a slight increase in the numbers in the hours from noon to 1 p.m. and from 5 to 6 p.m. and from 11 p.m. to midnight.

## THE WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS

TABLE No. 34.

## HOME VISITATIONS.

	Districts.				Total.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	
INFANTS—					
Number of first visits (after notification of birth) ...	209	144	165	157	675
Number of subsequent visits ...	1539	1144	887	1218	4788
CHILDREN (1-5 Years)—					
Number of children visited ...	882	693	568	820	2963
Number of subsequent visits ...	2276	2789	1484	1616	8165
EXPECTANT MOTHERS—					
Number visited ... ..	50	66	22	15	153
Number of subsequent visits ...	81	60	19	47	207
STILL-BIRTHS—					
Number visited ... ..	8	2	9	4	23
CASES OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM					
Number visited ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
MEASLES—					
Number visited ... ..	2	—	4	—	6
WHOOPING COUGH—					
Number visited ... ..	33	12	—	41	86
CHICKENPOX—					
Number visited ... ..	6	—	2	—	8

## Feeding of above Infants :—

Breast ... ..	499
Partly Breast ... ..	24
Artificial ... ..	152

The housing conditions of the babies born to women normally resident in the Burgh and visited by the Health Visitors during 1939 are shown in the following Table :—

TABLE No. 35.

Number of Rooms.	Number of Inmates.															
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Total
One Room ...	18	86	57	28	24	6	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	223
Two Rooms	9	65	70	45	31	11	2	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	240
Three Rooms	—	38	42	50	20	26	6	9	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	194
Four or more Rooms ...	—	14	12	10	13	6	8	8	7	4	2	2	1	1	1	89
Total ...	27	203	181	133	88	49	19	21	11	6	3	2	1	1	1	746

TABLE No. 36.

## THE WORK OF THE CLINIC.

	Under 1 Year of Age.	Over 1 Year of Age.	Total.
Number of children who attended	274 (119)	177 (100)	451 (219)
Number of attendances made ...	848 (394)	548 (209)	1396 (603)

The figures in parenthesis refer to numbers at the Branch Clinic. Branch Clinic numbers are also included in the main figures.

TABLE No. 37.

## THE CONDITIONS RECORDED WERE.

	Districts.				Total.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	
Skin Conditions ... ..	62	10	3	2	77
For Vaccination ... ..	51	42	20	3	116
Malnutrition ... ..	1	2	4	13	20
Digestive Disturbances ... ..	10	7	14	16	47
Ear, Nose and Throat Conditions	63	9	7	1	80
Rickets ... ..	5	4	1	—	10
Respiratory Affections ... ..	48	13	23	—	84
Enlarged Glands ... ..	38	3	3	1	45
Eye Conditions ... ..	37	4	6	—	47
Teething ... ..	62	4	6	4	76
Other Conditions ... ..	172	121	69	9	371
	549	219	156	49	973



## Food and Milk.

As in past years milk was supplied for the use of infants and nursing mothers whose health conditions were unsatisfactory.

As was the practice last year Humanised Dried Milk was supplied to a number of babies under the age of 9 months instead of Liquid Milk.

In addition the Scheme for milk for antenatal mothers continued during the year.

The following shows the number supplied :—

	<i>Mothers.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
1. Number of persons supplied with Liquid Milk, Dried Milk, Milk Substitutes and other food preparations	90	1065
2. Liquid Milk—		
Total quantity supplied—Grade—Certified (pints) ...	3390	17,929
Antenatal Patients ... ..	2097	
3. Dried Milk and other Milk substitutes—		
Trufood, Lactogen, Cow and Gate, etc. Total quantity supplied ... ..		7908 lbs.
4. Other Food Preparations—		
Cod Liver Oil ... ..		274 lbs.
Virol and Virolax ... ..		1512 lbs.
Emulsion ... ..		230 lbs.
5. Total Cost to Local Authority ... ..	(2)	£319 1 4
	(3)	477 16 0
	(4)	124 5 6
		£921 2 10
Amount recovered by Local Authority ... ..		105 9 7
		£815 13 3

TABLE No. 38.

### ULTRA-VIOLET RAY CLINIC.

#### ATTENDANCES AT CENTRAL AND BRANCH CLINICS.

	Under 1 Year of Age.		1-5 Years.		Totals.	
	Central.	Branch.	Central.	Branch.	Central.	Branch.
Number of children attending ...	18	12	88	68	106	80
Number of attendances ... ..	341	223	1564	699	1905	922

TABLE No. 39.  
CONDITIONS TREATED AND PROGRESS MADE.

Conditions.	Number.	Results.		Particulars of Treatment.		
		Improved.	Not Improved.	Still Attending.	Finished Course of Treatment.	Number stopped Course before completion.
Malnutrition, General Debility and Allied Conditions ...	117	98	19	16	66	35
Rickets and Incipient Rickets...	17	14	3	5	7	5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	13	10	3	—	6	7
Enlarged Glands ...	6	3	3	1	3	2
Chest Conditions (Bronchitis, etc.)	15	12	3	2	8	5
Skin Conditions ...	4	2	2	—	3	1
Other Conditions ...	14	10	4	7	3	4
Total ...	186	149	37	31	96	59

**Other Clinics.**

TABLE No. 40.

	Central Clinic.	Branch Clinic.	Total.
Attendances for Dressings ... ..	305	373	678
Attendances at Weighing Clinic ...	3310	633	3943
Attendances at Food Clinic ... ..	5697	3099	8796
Attendances at Immunisation Clinic	354	211	565
Other Attendances ... ..	295	156	451

**Day Nurseries and Play Centres.**

The remarks made in previous Reports still hold good. No progress has been made during the year under this heading.

**Voluntary Workers.**

The Voluntary Workers in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme have continued to function with great success during 1939.

I should like to pay a tribute to the activities of the Voluntary Workers and assure them of the value of their services to the Department.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

A note on this disease has already been made under the heading of Notifiable Diseases.

**NEUROLOGICAL AND PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE****Child Guidance Clinic.**

The Child Guidance Clinic has had a successful session and extended its sphere of usefulness. In October, 1939, it was found necessary, owing to lack of accommodation, to move to Edgehill Manse, 30 London Road. There are now 10 members of Staff, including three Psychologists and a Speech Therapist. Dr. Anne McAllister, Glasgow, visited the Clinic during the session to give advice on speech cases. Members of the Public Health Staff co-operate when a medical examination is required.

The following Table shows the types of cases :—

Educational Defect.	Emotional Disturbance.	Delinquency.	Speech Defect.	Total.
15	13	9	14	51

The sources of reference are as follows :—

Schools.	Parents.	Juvenile Court.	Medical Officer (Ayr and Kilmarnock).	Total.
28	11	5	7	51

The cases are drawn not only from Kilmarnock but from all parts of the County. Close contact is kept with the Schools.

The work of the Clinic is entirely voluntary, and thanks are due to the Rotary Club, the Council of the Educational Institute of Scotland, the local Branch of the E.I.S., and to the parents of patients for donations towards the purchase and upkeep of equipment.

## THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL SERVICE

The Medical Officer of Health acts as Chief Public Assistance Medical Officer, and during the year the actual work has been carried on by the general practitioners in rotation.

A doctor attends daily at 10.30 a.m. and 4.45 p.m. at the Public Assistance Office for the purpose of seeing patients and issuing any necessary certificates. Visits to the homes of persons requiring medical treatment are made as required.

The arrangements for home nursing with the local Nursing Association continued as in past years and was much appreciated.

Again during the year there was a considerable increase in the number of persons receiving outdoor medical relief and in the number of persons admitted to institutions. The following gives some information regarding the work of the Department. 305 people were visited at home and 396 medical certificates were granted. The number of persons who received outdoor medical relief was as follows :—

<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
196	478	209	883

This number is practically the same as for 1938.

The number of home visits made was 475, which is much less than in the previous year.

The number of cases admitted to Cuninghame Home was :—

<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
123	22	7	152

This number shows a considerable decrease over the previous year.

There were 21 Lunacy Certificates signed as compared with 14 in 1938.

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1908 AND 1932

During the year the Health Visitors continued to act as visitors under the Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Acts. Cases requiring visiting are reported to the Medical Officer of Health by the Public Assistance Officer, and reports are furnished to him through the Public Health Department.

The following Table gives the details of the work carried out during 1939 :—

TABLE No. 41.

	Districts.				Total.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	
New Cases        ...        ...	—	1	2	—	3
Visits to Old and New Cases	76	111	116	123	426

## DIABETES

During the year 88,400 units of Insulin were supplied by the Department.

## VACCINATION (SCOTLAND) ACTS 1863 TO 1907

TABLE No. 42.

Successfully Vaccinated        ...        ...        ...        ...	83
Insusceptibility to Vaccine Disease—	
(a) Constitutional Insusceptibility        ...        ...	8
Medical Certificate of Postponement        ...        ...	22
Died before Vaccination        ...        ...        ...        ...	2
Referred to other Districts        ...        ...        ...        ...	7
Statutory Declaration of Conscientious Objection	489
Removed from District        ...        ...        ...        ...	7

## **BLIND PERSONS (SCOTLAND) ACT**

At the end of the year there were 21 men and 26 women on the Roll of Blind Persons in the Burgh. In addition there were 4 persons on the Roll who belong to Kilmarnock but who at present live outwith the Burgh.

As in previous years the supervision is undertaken by the District Teacher of the Mission to the Outdoor Blind for Glasgow and the West of Scotland, who works in co-operation with the Public Health Department locally.

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## **THE SILICOSIS AND ASBESTOSIS (MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS) SCHEMES, 1931 AND 1934**

During the year, under the above Scheme, 3 persons were examined. In no case was it found necessary to certify the individual unsuitable for the employment he proposed to follow.

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## **HOSPITAL AND AMBULANCE FACILITIES**

No changes are to be noted in the hospital accommodation during the year. The Corporation possesses Kirklandside Isolation Hospital, Kaimshill Sanatorium and the Burgh Maternity Hospital. The arrangement between the Town Council and Kilmarnock Infirmary whereby the latter body undertook certain medical services on behalf of the former was continued during the year.

With regard to ambulance facilities, an ambulance is provided by the Corporation at Kirklandside Hospital for the removal of acute Infectious Cases. Another ambulance is provided at the Burgh Maternity Home for the removal of patients and also for general work in connection with the Public Health Department.

The Kilmarnock Infirmary provide two ambulances for the conveyance of general medical and surgical cases.



## VENEREAL DISEASES

Male patients continue to be seen at the Bank Street Centre on Tuesday evenings or at other times by arrangement. The premises are open each evening from Monday to Friday, and an Orderly is in attendance to supervise irrigation treatment.

Female patients are seen by the Medical Officer at the Central Clinic Premises, Green Street, on Thursday evenings, and are given treatment by the Nurses on Mondays and Thursdays.

The number of patients who attended for the first time during 1939 was 96, of whom 64 were males and 32 females. This shows a decrease of one case from the number attending for the first time in 1938 (97).

The total attendances made by patients at the Clinics was 1,853. This is a large decrease on the figure for last year, which is almost entirely accounted for by the fact that the new treatment for Gonorrhoea entails considerably fewer visits to the Clinic by each patient suffering from this disease.

Gonorrhoea is now treated by a course of Sulphapyridine taken by the mouth in tablet form. It is estimated that 70-90% of patients are completely cured by one or more courses of this drug, and irrigation is now only required in exceptional cases. This is a great therapeutic advance. In Kilmarnock the treatment was first carried out towards the end of 1938, and since then the results have been excellent. It is as yet too early, however, to be certain that all cases of apparent cure are free of any tendency to relapse, and these patients are being carefully observed over a considerable period.

In 1939, 16 of those patients who ceased treatment failed even to complete a course of treatment, whilst a further 33 completed a course of treatment but ceased attending before final tests of cure were carried out. Thus there was a total defaulter rate of 26·3%. Most of the defaulters, as is usually found, were among males affected by Gonorrhoea. Very few cases of Syphilis failed to carry on with treatment.

During the year the Magistrates viewed a propaganda film entitled "Marriage Forbidden," and gave permission for it to be shown to adult audiences.

TABLE No. 43.

## RETURN OF CASES TREATED AT VENEREAL DISEASES CENTRE DURING 1939.

	Syphilis.		Gonorrhoea.		Soft Chancre.		Non-Specific Venereal.		Conditions other than Venereal.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1. Persons under treatment at 1st January, 1939	33	22	15	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	29
2. Persons removed from Register any previous year who returned during the year for treatment of same infection ... ..	5	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
3. Cases in which treatment or observation was commenced during the year ... ..	14	8	33	8	—	—	6	7	11	9	64	32
TOTAL of Items 1, 2, and 3 ... ..	52	30	56	15	—	—	6	7	11	9	125	61
4. Persons who ceased to attend :— (a) Before completing treatment for ... .. (b) After treatment but before final tests as to cure of ... ..	6	1	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	3
5. Persons transferred to other Centres ... ..	8	2	17	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	8
6. Persons discharged after completion of treatment and observation for ... ..	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
7. Persons who died while under treatment ... ..	4	—	18	3	—	—	6	5	11	9	39	17
8. Persons still under treatment or observation at end of year for ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	32	27	11	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	43	33
TOTAL of Items 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 ... ..	52	30	56	15	—	—	6	7	11	9	125	61
Number of attendances ... ..	607	340	708	105	—	—	20	26	22	25	1357	496

Examination of Pathological Material.	Microscopical.			Serum Tests.		C.S. Fluid Tests.	
	Spirochetes.	Gonococci.	Other Organisms.	Wassermann	Others.	Wassermann	Others.
(a) Specimens examined by the Staff of the Centre	—	16	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Specimens from persons attending the Centre which were sent for examination to an approved Laboratory ... ..	—	85	—	183	—	—	—

## CASES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE AREA IN WHICH THE PATIENTS RESIDED.

Number of cases from each area dealt with during the year for the first time and found to suffer from :—	Burgh of Kilmarnock.		Ayr County.		Glasgow.		Areas Outside Scotland.		Total.
(a) Syphilis ... ..	13		9		—		—		22
(b) Gonorrhoea ... ..	16		23		1		1		41
(c) Soft Chancre ... ..	—		—		—		—		—
(d) Non-Specific Venereal Infections ... ..	9		4		—		—		13
(e) Conditions other than Venereal ... ..	13		7		—		—		20
Total ... ..	51		43		1		1		96

Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area ... ..	1119	726	2	6	1853
Number of doses of Arsenobenzol Compounds given in the Out-Patient Department ... ..	192	137	—	—	329

TABLE No. 45.

## NEW CASES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE.

	Syphilis.		Gonorrhoea.		Soft Chancre.		Non-Specific Venereal.		Total.		Congenital Syphilis.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
(a) Under 1 year ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
(b) 1 and under 5 years ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) 5 and under 15 years ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
(d) 15 and under 25 years ... ..	6	2	14	5	—	—	—	2	20	9	2	—
(e) 25 years and upwards ... ..	8	4	19	3	—	—	6	5	33	12	—	1
Totals ... ..	14	8	33	8	—	—	6	7	53	23	2	3

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

### Maternity and Child Welfare.

Patients wishing to reserve accommodation in the Burgh Maternity Home may do so at Holmes Road between the hours of 2-3 p.m. and on Saturdays between 11-12 noon.

An Antenatal Clinic is held at Green Street every Monday afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

A Child Welfare Clinic is held at Green Street every Thursday afternoon at 2.30 p.m., and at the Branch Clinic (Knockinlaw Institute) on Tuesday mornings at 11-12.30 p.m.

Ultra-Violet Ray Clinics are held at Green Street on Mondays, 9-10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 2-2.30 p.m.; Fridays, 9-10 a.m.; and at the Branch Clinic each Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

A Weighing Clinic is held at Green Street on Wednesday afternoons from 3-4 p.m., and on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 p.m., and at the Branch Clinic on Tuesday mornings from 10-11 a.m.

An Immunisation Clinic is held at Green Street on Friday afternoons at 3 p.m., and at the Branch Clinic on Thursday afternoons at 3 p.m.

### Tuberculosis.

A Clinic for the examination of cases of Tuberculosis or of Contacts is held each Monday afternoon at 4 p.m. at Green Street.

### Venereal Diseases.

A Clinic for females is held at Green Street each Thursday evening from 5 p.m. onwards. Cases are also seen on Monday evenings by arrangement.

A Clinic for males is held at 64 Bank Street on Tuesday evenings from 6.30 p.m. onwards. Cases are also seen on Friday evenings by appointment.

The Clinic at Bank Street is open every evening from 7-9 p.m., Monday to Friday, for subsequent treatment. Female cases have subsequent treatment at Green Street by arrangement.

### School Clinic.

Clinics are held daily for the treatment of minor ailments, 9-10 a.m. and 4-5 p.m., at the Central Clinic, Green Street, and the Branch Clinic (Knockinlaw Institute). The Assistant Medical Officer attends at the Central Clinic on Wednesday mornings for the examination of special cases.

## AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

### The Organisation of the Casualty Service.

This service is organised mainly under the supervision of the Department of Health for Scotland. The First-Aid Parties, however, come under the jurisdiction of the Home Office in the same way as most other outdoor services.

It has, nevertheless, been the policy in Kilmarnock to identify the First-Aid Party Service and the Ambulance Service as closely as possible with one another, notwithstanding this dual control at the apex.

An outline of the war strength of the various services locally is as follows (Figures for personnel do not include reserves) :—

#### FIRST-AID PARTY SERVICE.

- 10 First-Aid Parties of 5 each (4 plus driver).
- 10 cars to carry First-Aid Personnel.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICE.

- 32 Ambulance Drivers.
- 16 Ambulance Attendants.
- 10 Car Drivers.
- 16 Four-Stretcher Ambulances.
- 10 Cars for Sitting Cases.

#### FIRST-AID POSTS.

- 2 Medium First-Aid Posts.
- 8 Male First-Aid Workers.
- 40 Female First-Aid Workers.
- 20 Nursing Auxiliaries.

#### WAR STATIONS.

There are 4 War Stations in Kilmarnock.

### No. 1 The Public Baths.

The personnel stationed here includes—

- 2 First-Aid Parties with cars (and 2 other parties with cars in reserve).
- 4 Ambulances with Drivers and Attendants.
- 2 Sitting Case Cars with Drivers (and 2 other Cars in reserve).

The Depot Superintendent is Mr. John D. Crooks, the Senior First-Aid Party Leader is Mr. John Brown, and the Ambulance Convoy Leader is Miss Winifred Turner.

Aid Post No. 1 is situated in the basement of the Public Baths. In medical charge is Dr. John Shanks, and the Rev. Mr. Wm. MacIntyre acts as Adjutant. The trained nurses are Mrs. Jack, S.R.N., and Mrs. Allardyce, S.R.N. The Post provides cleansing facilities for contaminated cases as well as ordinary first-aid.



### **No. 2 Depot is at Union Street Halls.**

The personnel stationed here includes—

- 2 First-Aid Parties with cars.
- 4 Ambulances with Drivers and Attendants.
- 2 Sitting Case Cars with Drivers.

The Depot Superintendent is Mr. L. Brandt, the Senior First-Aid Party Leader is Mr. John Craig, and the Ambulance Convoy Leader is Miss R. Y. Caldwell.

Aid Post No. 2 is situated here. In medical charge is Dr. W. B. G. Mair, and Mr. R. W. Blackwood acts as Adjutant. He is assisted by Mr. N. W. Scoular. Miss M. G. Boyd acts as Nurse. This Post has first-class cleansing facilities for contaminated cases as well as ordinary first-aid facilities. It is situated in close proximity to the Kilmarnock Infirmary.

### **No. 3 Depot is situated at the Burgh Maternity Home.**

The personnel stationed here includes—

- 2 First-Aid Parties with Cars.
- 4 Ambulances with Drivers and Attendants.
- 2 Sitting Case Cars with Drivers.

The Senior First-Aid Party Leader is Mr. John Thomson, and the Ambulance Convoy Leader is Miss J. Auld.

### **No. 4 Depot is situated at the Old Fire Station.**

The personnel stationed here includes—

- 2 First-Aid Parties with Cars.
- 4 Ambulances with Drivers and Attendants.
- 2 Sitting Case Cars with Drivers.

The Depot is supervised by Mr. A. Hill, Assistant Ambulance Officer.

All Transport arrangements are supervised by Mr. Frank Turnbull, the Ambulance Officer.

With regard to the **First-Aid Parties**, up till the end of the year we were allowed 4 men whole time. For a considerable time after the outbreak of war volunteers took turns at sleeping in the Depots in order to be on hand if required. This was asking a good deal from men who were sometimes working long hours in factories day after day.

The personnel of the parties keeps changing as men are called up, but sufficient of the original members remain to give stability to the service. The First-Aid ability of the average member of this service is of a high order. The war strength of the service is  $10 \times 5 = 50$ . The service was up to strength at the end of the year.

We have one First-Aid Party Car owned by the Corporation always standing by.

Of the 16 Four-Stretcher Ambulances we are supposed to have, we own 6. These are re-conditioned Morris Commercial Vans which have had new bodies fitted. The work was carried out by the Western S.M.T., and a word of



special appreciation is due to Mr. John C. Sword for the personal interest he took in seeing that a workmanlike job was turned out. The other 10 vehicles are Commercial Vans in everyday use by firms in the town. These vans are often not available when wanted, and it would be a great improvement if more vehicles could be provided on a whole-time basis.

Of the 10 sitting case cars the Corporation owns one. The others belong to volunteers, and apart from the fact that they are generally small cars they are reasonably satisfactory.

One difficulty that has arisen is due to our inability to garage the necessary vehicles at the War Stations. An effort is being made to overcome this difficulty (partly at least) before another winter.

As mentioned previously the war strength of the Ambulance Service is—

- 32 Ambulance Drivers.
- 16 Ambulance Attendants.
- 10 Sitting Case Car Drivers.

At the end of the year the numbers enrolled were—

- 41 Ambulance Drivers.
- 6 Ambulance Attendants.
- 21 Sitting Case Car Drivers.

In addition to the Ambulance Officer, Mr. F. Turnbull and his Assistant Mr. A. Hill, there are 8 whole-time Ambulance Drivers.

**Aid Post No. 1**, situated in the basement of the Public Baths, is below ground level and has a concrete roof. Although somewhat cramped for the purpose the accommodation is very safe and calculated to give a feeling of confidence to both casualties and staff. The equipment issued by the Department of Health forms in some respects, a bare minimum of what might be required, and it is hoped to supplement this gradually from funds raised locally. There are 2 male and 4 female workers attached to this Post on a whole-time capacity.

**Aid Post No. 2**, at Union Street Halls, represents a building converted as nearly as possible to conform to the Department of Health's model plan for an Aid Post. The accommodation is roomy and in all respects satisfactory.

At this Post there are 2 male and 4 female workers employed whole-time.

**The Casualty Hospital** for Kilmarnock and district is the Kilmarnock Infirmary, where beds are reserved for any injured in war operations. The second choice of hospital in the case of the local infirmary being unable to accommodate casualties is the new Ballochmyle Hutted Hospital.

Under the Civilian Deaths from War Operations Scheme premises in Strand Street have been rented to act as a **Mortuary** in case of need. This service is supervised by Mr. David Hutchison and he is assisted by Mr. W. Roseweir.

The Public Health Department were assisted greatly by the Local Ministers, who from the outbreak of war until the end of the year arranged for one of their number to be on duty in the **Control Room** taking charge of the M.O.H.'s telephone.

## BILLETING OF SOLDIERS

On the outbreak of war Troops were billeted in the main hall of the town and also in certain subsidiary halls. Later a school was taken over for billets. Close contact was maintained between the Public Health Department and the Military Authorities and all the help we could give was at their disposal. Emergency dry closets for the billets were, at the request of the Sanitary Inspector, converted to the water carriage system which was a great improvement. It was evident from visitation of the billets that the black-out necessitated by modern war conditions was interfering with proper ventilation, and some apprehension was felt regarding the possible increase in incidence of droplet infections. Up till the end of the year these infections had not developed to any great extent, and this is perhaps to be explained by the fact that the units in the town up till that time were Territorial Units who had a goodly proportion of their members over the age of 25 years. Furthermore, they had been in the habit of camping together and were perhaps more immune to each others faucial flora, than a more heterogeneous assortment of younger men would have been. Altogether we had two soldiers admitted to the Isolation Hospital for treatment up to the end of the year. The conditions from which they were suffering were :—

Vaccinia.

Influenza.

7 members of the Forces were also admitted to Kilmarnock Infirmary and appended is a list of the conditions for which they were admitted :—

Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scalds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Concussion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fractured Nose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cut Tendons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The general condition of the Troops appeared to be excellent. Bathing facilities were made available in the Academy Baths by arrangement with the Education Authority, the soldiers having the use of these baths from 3 o'clock onwards each day. By this means a weekly bath was assured to each man.

One point of interest in connection with wars is that venereal disease is expected to increase. There was no evidence up till the end of the year of any undue increase in Kilmarnock.

Opportunity is taken to express the pleasure which it has been to co-operate with the local personnel of the R.A.M.C.

## GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME

Very early in September the Government Evacuation Scheme came into force. It was on Sunday, 3rd September, that is the day on which war was declared, that the Kilmarnock contingent arrived. We were to get 4,788 evacuees. Actually 2,144 arrived. There were certain difficulties inherent in distributing the evacuees. In the first place the trains bringing the evacuees did not arrive as scheduled. This caused a good deal of delay and was upsetting to arrangements already made. When the mothers and children did begin to arrive it was quickly noted that certain of them could not be billeted in households on account of their unsatisfactory condition either from the point of view of vermin infestation or general uncleanness. Some of the worst of the cases were billeted in a hall for the night. Others slipped through and were billeted on householders. One special difficulty was the fact that the children coming to Kilmarnock were, in general, members of large families (the evacuees were all of one religious persuasion), and the families declined to be broken up. The result of this was an uneven distribution, one house getting four or five and another perhaps none. Altogether the Public Health Department cleansed over 300 evacuees, either at the Central Clinic premises or at the Cleansing Station at Kirklands Hospital, in addition to the evacuees cleansed in their foster homes by the householders.

A full account of the Evacuation Scheme is to be found in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

From a public health point of view certain aspects call for mention. Firstly, hostel accommodation for difficult or exceptional children had to be provided, and this was provided in a large private house. The running of this hostel has been by no means easy.

Arrangements had to be made for the accommodation of blind persons. Two large houses were taken, one for each sex. It was found that the number of blind coming to Kilmarnock was 42 as compared with 95, the number promised. The result was that all the blind were accommodated in one large house, and the arrangements made for the taking over of the other were found to have been unnecessary.

Similarly, we were asked to make arrangements for the reception of 65 expectant mothers. Three centres were chosen. The day before the mothers were due we were told that there would be 30. Actually when the bus was met there were 5 expectant mothers, so that we found that again a good deal of preparation had served no useful purpose. Three of the expectant mothers were delivered in the Burgh Maternity Home, one having a twin birth. The remaining two women returned to Glasgow before they were due to be admitted to the Burgh Maternity Home.

Without a doubt the most troublesome factor in evacuation was the problem of bed-wetting. There is no doubt that many children who are perfectly normal in this respect wet their beds in the acute upset and strangeness of new homes, but that could not account for the continuance of this troublesome factor after the first week or so. This unfortunate matter has been forced into the public mind by evacuation, for none can say that the incidence is greater in the children sent to our town than in our own children. Parents do not advertise that their own children wet their beds but complain at once of other children who do so. Another point which is now admitted to have been a mistake is the evacuation of mothers, as it seems impossible in any but a small proportion of cases, for two women with separate families to inhabit the same house and maintain a peaceful atmosphere.

Lastly, it should be noted that infectious disease was not rife. We had expected that the children from the densely populated areas of Glasgow would be the means of bringing disease to our relatively susceptible children in Kilmarnock. The number of evacuees who had been removed to Kirklandside Hospital for treatment up to the end of the year was 12. They were removed for the following conditions :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

The question of why our forecast of increased infectious disease did not occur remains unanswered. Some have suggested that school closure was the important factor, but as the epidemics did not occur when schools reopened it cannot surely have been so important after all.

Of the 2,144 evacuees 193 were still in the Burgh at the end of the year.



